

The Middlebury Campus

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MAHANEY CHARGES DROPPED

By AMELIA POLLARD
Local Editor

The woman who in January accused notable alumnus and donor Kevin Mahaney '84 of covering up rape dropped her charges against Mahaney from the civil lawsuit on Monday.

The plaintiff, who had been granted anonymity in the case, released a statement stating that Mahaney had no part in the assault, and that she was dropping all charges against him. The lawsuit will proceed against Howard Rubin, 62, who now remains the sole person accused in the lawsuit.

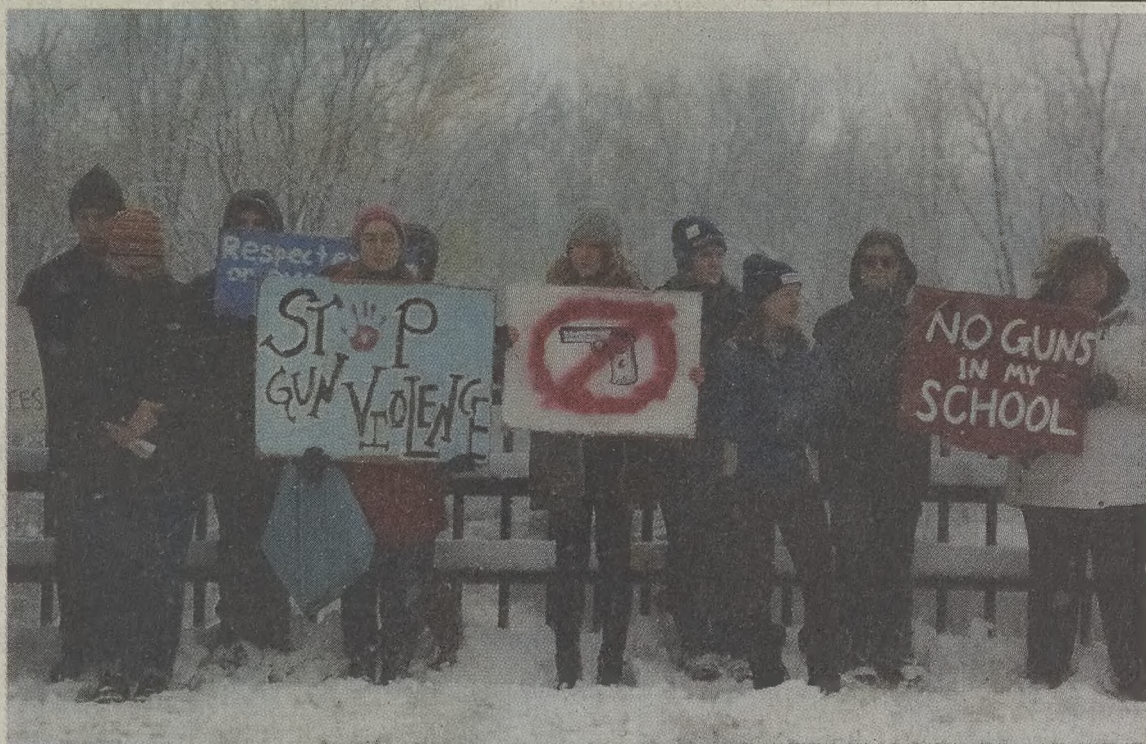
"Earlier this year, I decided that, to move on with my life, I needed to tell the story of what I endured and to seek justice through the court system," the plaintiff said in the statement.

"As part of that effort, I brought a lawsuit against not only the man who committed the assault, Mr. Howard Rubin, but also against Kevin Mahaney, with whom I was friends at the time of the assault. I now realize my decision to include Kevin in the lawsuit was a mistake and that he bears no responsibility for what happened to me. Kevin played no role in the attack, assisted me in its immediate aftermath, and continued supporting me for months thereafter," she said.

"I now understand Kevin does not know Howard Rubin."

The plaintiff arrived at a voluntary discontinuance of the lawsuit, in which she agreed to drop the charges of aiding and abetting that she had submitted in early January. The lawsuit originally asked Mahaney for 17 million dollars in reparations, and accused him of helping to "cover up" the rape and torture that the plaintiff accused a wealthy Wall Street investment manager, Howard Rubin, of committing against her in 2015.

The lawsuit originally accused Mahaney of persuading the plaintiff to not seek legal or medical treatment in the wake of the alleged assault she experienced in a penthouse in Manhattan. Mahaney filed a motion to dismiss the lawsuit on March 12, claiming that he does not know Howard



EMMA STAPLETON/THE MIDDLEBURY CAMPUS

Middlebury Union High School students, college students and community members stood in seventeen minutes of silence to protest gun violence on Wednesday, March 14. See A3 for stories.

Rubin, and had no part in the alleged assault of the plaintiff.

Mahaney is the namesake of college's Center for the Arts. Middlebury released a statement on Tuesday noting that the charges against Mahaney had been dropped.

The plaintiff's lawyer did not respond to a request comment on the retraction of the civil lawsuit against Mahaney. All charges are still being held against Rubin.

Mahaney is president and CEO of the Olympia Companies, a real estate development company based in Portland, Maine. The Morning Sentinel, a newspaper in Waterville, Maine, reported on March 13 that Colby College had terminated a development project contract with the Olympia Companies in response to the lawsuit against Mahaney. Colby had hired the company in January to oversee the building of a hotel at the college.

When asked whether the college would reconsider the decision in light of the dropped charges, Kate Carlisle, a spokeswoman for Colby, said that they would not resume work with the Olympia Companies.

"We have already terminated the agreement, and are moving ahead to develop the property ourselves," Carlisle said.

Feminist Group Hosts Day of Action

By MAYA
LONDON-SOUTHERN
Contributing Writer

A group of students and faculty met in Hillcrest for an Planned Parenthood Action Forum, hosted by Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM) on March 8. The forum was led by Paige Feeser, who serves as the Vermont Public Affairs Organizer for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England and representative organizer for Planned Parenthood Vermont Action Fund.

Feeser began her talk with an overview of Planned Parenthood's story, specifically discussing the organization in the aftermath 2016 election. She said that Republican congressional leaders moved to strip Planned Parenthood of all federal funding in Jan. 2017 in an attempt to fulfill their long time goal of eliminating abortion services. With then-president-elect about to take office, Republicans had taken quick actions to try to move their plan forward.

Federal defunding of Planned Parenthood would inhibit the two-and-a-half million patients who rely on the organization from accessing their healthcare services. Feeser said they were also working to repeal the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and block Planned Parenthood from accepting Medicaid reimbursements.

"So basically if a patient comes to us wanting to use Medicaid to pay for their services, we would no longer be able to accept that form of payment."

Such an action would have had disastrous consequences in a state like Vermont where, according to Feeser, 47 percent of the Planned Parenthood patient base access services using Medicaid funding. "So we knew we were up for the fight of our lives," she said.

To prevent this, Planned Parenthood worked to identify senators

following the inauguration whom they could persuade to take action, among these were Republican senators, Lisa Murkowski, the Alaska senator and Susan Collins, the Maine senator. Volunteers wrote, called, and sought both out in public.

A total of 200,000 volunteers across the country assisted and organized Planned Parenthood events fighting to prevent Medicaid defunding and ACA repeal. Volunteers organized half of the 2400 events, made 250,000 phone calls, and signed 2.5 million petitions.

Collins's and Murkowski's votes against Majority Leader Mitch McConnell's July 2017 proposal to partially repeal the ACA, as well as Sen-

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Swipes Save More than \$300K

By WILL DIGRAVIO
and ELAINE VELIE
Managing Editor & News Editor

The implementation of a swipe system in all three of the college's dining halls has resulted in more than \$300,000 in savings since last September, according to David Provost, the college's treasurer.

That figure, comprised of savings through February of this year, includes \$100,000 in revenue made through selling individual meals to visitors and off-campus students, as well as specialized plans to faculty and staff. It also reflects a reduction in food costs, which are a byproduct of now having accurate data to show the number of students who actually eat at the dining halls during a given day.



ADDISON INDEPENDENT

David Provost.

As reported in The Campus last fall, one of the major reasons for implementing the swipe system was to ensure people did not enter the dining halls and eat for free. Visiting sports teams and students who lived off-campus and opted not to pay for a meal plan were large abusers of the former system, but the college has been able to capitalize on those losses since implementing the swipe

system. Now, those not on meals plans pay when they want to eat in the dining hall.

"For example, UVM track just tried to get into the dining hall a couple months ago, so now we capture those people who come into the dining halls, so it's actually increased our revenue quite a bit. It's not that we turn those people away, but we hold them accountable and make them pay," said Dan Detora, who heads food operations for the college.

Though in other areas the college is cutting costs in order to decrease deficits, the savings and revenue that have come with the implementation of the swipe system have been reinvested back into the college's dining system, resulting in a net savings of around \$3,000.

"In the old plan of not having swipe cards, we were feeding a lot of people who weren't paying, and students were paying for that," said David Provost, the college treasurer. Provost emphasized that money will now go back to the students, instead of the other way around. "Because we're trying to take the savings from dining and invest them back into dining, it won't have a big impact on deficit reduction," he said.

This revenue has been reinvested into dining services in a number of ways. More grass-fed beef, dairy free and vegan options have been introduced. Upon request from the Student Government Association, Nutella is now available in dining halls, which costs \$20,000 per year. Each student has also received \$25 in declining balance per semester, which they can then use at on-campus vendors such as the Grille and Crossroads Café.

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'MISMATCH THEORY' CREATOR TO SPEAK

By BOCHU DING
Senior Writer

Middlebury College Republicans will bring Richard Sander, a professor of law at UCLA, to campus on April 3 to discuss his criticisms of affirmative action. Sander's talk, entitled "Mismatch: Does Affirmative Action Hurt More Than It Helps?" will discuss his "mismatch theory," which contends that racial preferences such as affirmative action hurt minority students by placing them in overly competitive environments, where their skill sets are not ample.

The event will be open only to Middlebury College ID holders, and will take place at the Kirk Alumni Center, which is located next to the college's golf course. Following the lecture, Sander will be joined by Caitlin Myers, professor of economics, who will moderate a discussion and Q&A.

Sander is best known for his critique of affirmative action policies and his work surrounding housing segregation. He devoted his early career to researching fair housing policies before serving as president of the Fair Housing Congress of Southern California and founding the Fair Housing Institute. Sander also worked to assess the outcomes of racial preferences in admissions.

In 2004, he published a study reviewing the impact of affirmative action on black students at UCLA law school. The study concluded that affirmative action policies resulted in the acceptance of students whose capabilities were inadequate for the institution's academic rigor. Sander goes on to connect this "mismatch" of academic ability to black students' higher attrition rates, and extrapolates that there would be 7.9 percent more black law students passing the bar test had affirmative action policies not existed.

This 2004 study, alongside sev-

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TENNIS COURTS TO BE DEMOLISHED

By CAROLINE KAPP
Contributing Writer

Starting in early to mid-June, the tennis courts behind Atwater dining hall will be bulldozed in order to create new parking in E-lot. The new parking will replace the space lost due to construction of the temporary computer science building located behind Johnson Memorial Building.

John McLeod, a professor of architecture whose downtown firm on Frog Hollow Alley is designing the building, said that the once the courts are bulldozed, part of the area will become parking and the other portion will be converted to grass.

The Atwater area originally had six tennis courts, four of which were removed when the dining hall was built. The two remaining courts are used recreationally.

The project is currently pending approval under State of Vermont Act 250 considering land use and environmental permitting standards. Upon consent, the courts will be bulldozed following commencement and reunion and the new parking will be available for use starting in the fall of 2018.

Tom McGinn, project manager, describes the new computer science building as an "interim academic space." The project was initially introduced as a temporary space and was potentially going to house trailers. However, as the project developed, it was decided that it was more practical to construct a longer-lasting building.

The building will consist of mainly metal material and will thus have a life of between 25-30 years. After this time, the building

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SPORTS



Undeclared Women's Lacrosse beats Wesleyan
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NEWS IN BRIEF

By CAMPUS STAFF

SGA PASSES FINANCIAL AID BILL

The Off Campus Food Financial Aid Program (OFFFAP) bill passed with senator Stephanie Andrews '18 abstaining [14-0-1] in a Student Government Association (SGA) vote on Sunday. The OFFFAP will cover the cost of food for students on financial aid while they are away from campus on trips with student clubs and organizations. The program is expected to cost \$17,000 annually and will be reevaluated after a year of operation.

When asked about the status of the budget allocation for the program, treasurer and chair of the finance committee Peter Dykeman-Berningham stated that it would not be possible to draw from the OFFFAP's allocated funds for use for anything other than the program itself.

SGA members discussed the scope of the financial aid brackets the program would serve and the food expense per diem that the program would support, ultimately deciding that the program would provide a per diem of \$15 to all financial aid recipients. - *Eric Kapner*

CC PASSES INCLUSIVE BATHROOM RESOLUTION

Community Council voted unanimously to pass an inclusive bathroom recommendation on Monday.

The recommendation suggests that, in all existing buildings on campus, the signage on single stall bathrooms should be changed to be gender inclusive, and that at least one "menstrual friendly" bathroom should house a free tampon dispenser.

The recommendation calls for an all-gender and "menstrual friendly" bathroom on every floor with restrooms in every new public building built on campus. It also calls for a disability accessible bathroom in every new building, with a consideration for disability accessible showers available within close proximity to all campus buildings.

The changes will be implemented in three stages. They will be applied to the planning of any new buildings, implemented when renovations are done in existing buildings and taken into account when maintenance is done on existing building on campus.

The recommendation is intended to increase bathroom access for community members with disabilities and for people of all gender identities on campus. The recommendation aims to address issues such as ableism, classism, gender identity and expression, health, menstrual equality and sexism on campus.

The recommendation also suggests the preparation of two studies which will help to improve accessibility for those with disabilities on campus and will consider similar reforms as the ones listed above to all ancillary properties of the colleges. - *Caroline Kapp*

PRESIDENT SIGNS LETTER SEEKING ENDOWMENT TAX REPEAL

President Laurie Patton signed a letter on Mar. 7 asking for the repeal of a provision in the 2017 tax act that places a 1.4% excise tax on endowments of private colleges and universities exceeding \$500,000 per student with more than 500 students. The letter was sent to Republican and Democratic leaders of the House and Senate by 49 presidents of institutions including Amherst College, Bowdoin College, Williams College and others.

Patton took a stand with other school leaders even though the college would not currently have to pay the tax, as its endowment is currently below the \$500,000 per student line.

The letter states that the tax will reduce the capacity for endowments to increase access, affordability and opportunities for success for students in higher education institutions across the nation. On these grounds, it urges lawmakers to re-evaluate this section of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Acts.

The letter works to address the misconception that endowments are left in long-term reserves and unused. It highlights instead how critical endowments are to the functioning of colleges and universities, in some cases providing almost half of annual revenues.

The letter makes clear that the tax will be hurting students above anyone else.

"Students are the leading beneficiary of these resources with each of us committed to significant efforts to enhance affordability," it said. "Yet this tax will not address the cost of college or student indebtedness, as some have tried to suggest. Instead, it will constrain the resources available to the very institutions that lead the nation in reducing, if not eliminating, the costs for low- and middle-income students, and will impede the efforts of other institutions striving to grow their endowments for this very purpose." - *Catherine Pollack*

College GOP Invites Affirmative Action Critic

Continued from Page A1

eral cited studies and personal anecdotes, served as the basis for Sander's 2012 book, "Mismatch: How Affirmative Action Hurts Students It's Intended to Help, and Why Universities Won't Admit It," where he formally introduced "mismatch theory."

"Sander is a proponent for racial preference programs in admissions," said Jigar Bhakta '18, co-president of the College Republicans, "However, his arguments point out (whether right or wrong, empirically) that there is a deep flaw in how affirmative action is being implemented, and that serious reforms are needed to actually further the goal instead of perpetuating a self-destructive cycle of pinning down those it's intended to prop up."

In his own words, during an interview for The Atlantic, Sander said, "Many of the people who do research on this, including me, think that racial preferences are also desirable and should be part of any system that we have—as long as we're paying close attention to whether there are harmful side effects, boomerang effects, in the process."

Sander's theories on affirmative action have also received much push back, with several studies disproving his conclusions. For example, a 2015 study by Yale law professors Ian Ayres and Richard Brooks conclude that by eliminating affirmative action, the number of projected black lawyers actually decreased by 12.7 percent.

During his talk in April, Sander will seek to provide evidence for and explain his theories. In addition, Sander plans to focus on discussing the difficulties of conducting empirical research on contentious social topics, as well as the challenges of

engaging other academics and the public in constructive dialogue regarding such research. "Part of the failed manifestation of affirmative action, (Sander) argues, is the taboo nature of discussing the facts of affirmative action," explains Bhakta '18.

Caitlin Myers, whose research similarly looks at contentious social issues, was selected by the College Republicans to serve as a moderator in the discussion and the Q&A. "My role is to attempt to engage in a substantive, rigorous, and critical dialogue following Sander's presentation, and to help bring in more voices from the audience," Myers said. "If there are members of our community who have questions or comments they'd like to suggest to me in advance, I welcome an email."

The lecture will be held in the Kirk Alumni Center, located beyond the Athletics Center and above the Ralph Myhre Golf Course clubhouse. The College Republicans chose the venue after evaluating with members of the administration a variety of spaces that would both meet their goals and the College's need for security.

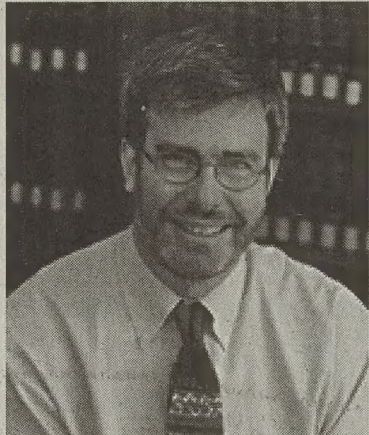
Given Middlebury's new Interim Procedures for Scheduling Events and Invited Speakers, the process for approval was thorough and comprehensive. The College Republicans formally submitted a request on Jan. 9th and the approval was finalized on March 12th. In accordance with conclusions from the Committee on Speech & Inclusion, the College Republicans will also give advance notice to the community. In addition, the College Republicans have reached out to both specific student organizations that represent underrepresented groups and department chairs notifying them of the event.

The Sander invitation marks the

one year anniversary of fallout from protests around Charles Murray's talk. However, both Bhakta '18 and Myers remain positive about how the community will react.

"I think we as a community have had our recoil from the overly emotional and content-ignorant reactions to the Murray event," said Bhakta '18. "We have all had time to draw our own lines in the sand and reflect on them. I'm not a betting man, but I have faith in us in showing civic discourse and academic debate instead of our fists and pitchforks."

"Over and over, I have heard Middlebury's students, staff and faculty express a deep and fundamental desire to create a community that is diverse, inclusive, free and open. The Murray events were deeply painful for so many of us, and we have learned and benefited from the year of reflection that has followed," Myers said. "I believe the Sander invita-



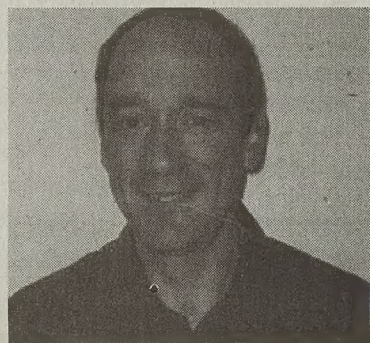
Richard Sander.

UCLA LAW SCHOOL

tion comes from an earnest desire to engage an important question, but I also recognize that it comes as a new opportunity for Middlebury."

TENNIS COURTS TO BE REPLACED BY TEMPORARY BUILDING

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MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
John McLeod.

could be restored or, because it will use "very little non-recyclable content," it could be moved or recycled.

McGinn explains that the new

building will allow the college "to renovate existing buildings and to expand the Bi Hall programs."

The building will house the computer science department on the top floor and office space on the floor below. Departments from different buildings will be moved into this space while their current building is renovated. This process will start with the faculty in Munroe Hall during the fall of 2019. Over the course of about eight years, other buildings including Warner Hall, the Adirondack House and potentially the Johnson Memorial Building will go through the same process.

Once this process is completed, McGinn explains that the space

can be "easily reconfigured" and repurposed for many potential uses.

McGinn said that the new building is part of a campus-wide initiative "to see how well we are utilizing our existing space and how we could utilize it better." Middlebury has contracted Biddison Hier Limited, a company which helps colleges and universities with resource planning and management. Biddison Hier is currently performing a campus space utilization study, which is analyzing classroom, residential and dining space with hopes of determining what permanent buildings should be constructed in the future.

Reusable To-Go Boxes Coming Next Month

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When the swipe system was first announced, it was met with widespread skepticism from the student body. However, since then, it has become widely accepted. Provost acknowledged students' initial resentment toward the swipe system and said the college needed to do a better job in announcing new changes in the future. "We have to find a way to communicate better so that the hysteria goes away," he said.

In the near future, there is no plan to offer meal plans other than unlimited. But, dining services is working to expand retail food services on campus and will examine offering multiple meal plans in the future, should students approve.

Detora said that Starbucks coffee will be sold in Wilson Cafe by next fall, and he is currently working on plans to expand food offerings in the athletic center beyond game-time concessions.

Provost said improving the Mc-

Cullough Student Center is also a focus area for him in the future.

"I would like to see us make McCullough more of a student center, I don't believe it reflects what most student centers on college campuses look like," he said. Detora said the college is already having architects coming to look at The Grille and find ways to improve the space.

There is also the potential of creating a new student store. In light of the bookstore's recent decision to no longer sell books, the store could find its way to McCullough and merge with MiddExpress. "Isn't there a student store experience in the student center that can meet all those needs?" Provost asked.

With additional retail spaces, Detora and Provost expect that students will want different meal plan options.

"As we build those retail spaces, students might want to consider less meals in the dining hall and more declining balance on their card," Detora said. "That will definitely be a student decision.

We have a food committee and students will decide that, [along with] the SGA."

"As these retail units grow, we'll see what happens, but as of right now, there's no plan of changing the meal plan for next year," he added.

Dining services will cut costs further after spring break, when reusable to-go containers replace disposable ones. In a school-wide email, Detora explained that dining services purchases more than 180,000 to-go containers per year, costing more than \$27,000. The SGA worked with dining services to develop this plan.

Beginning April 9, the dining halls will no longer have disposable to-go boxes. Instead, students now have the option to participate in a new reusable to-go program until the end of the spring semester. Students can provide feedback at go.middlebury.edu/to-go.

"After this time, dining will assess the program to improve it," Detora wrote. "We are so excited to implement this project and hope you will be a part of it!"

Tips for Room Draw

By CAROLINE KAPP

Contributing Writer

In accordance with student and Student Government Association (SGA) feedback from last year, the housing process has been refined. In an interview with The Campus, dean for residential life Doug Adams explained the new process and gave advice for students as they navigate the various draws. Adams acknowledged that the process can cause anxiety but advises that pre-planning can reduce stress.

After spring break, juniors and seniors will have a period of time to fill out their housing applications on StarRez, the online housing draw platform. The first draw for seniors will take place between April 3 and 6. The second, for juniors and mixed grade groups, will occur between April 19 and 24. The final draw for sophomores will take place between April 11 and 16.

Since many students will not receive their first choice for housing, Adams advises students to make a list and develop contingency plans. Going into the draw process with several alternatives can reduce students' stress once the process has started and housing options begin to fill. Once housing is drawn it is final, so all students should feel comfortable and confident with the selection they make and with the group they enter the process with. Adams recommended entering the draw with at least one other person because if a student is not available during their time slot, the person they entered the draw with can act as their proxy, even if they do not choose to live together.

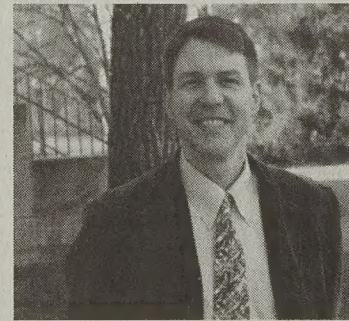
Each individual or group will be randomly assigned a time slot, with slots spanning the course of several days. In order for a group to receive a time slot the group leader must "verify" the group is complete after all members have joined. The length of each time slot for the upperclassmen draws will be dependent on the number of groups who enter into the draw, but will likely be 15 minutes.

Once a time slot has begun, the individual(s) in that slot will have from then until rooms are selected or the process has closed. However, new groups will join the draw when their time slot begins. When a group is choosing housing during their slot, they can either opt to remain as a large group or section off into smaller groups or chose to room as individuals.

At the end of each draw day, the residential life team will release information regarding which housing options are still available for students to claim. This will allow students who have not yet drawn to plan accordingly.

There will be a drop-in session today from 1:30-3:30 p.m. outside of the box office in McCullough with members of Adam's team to help students plan for the housing draw. Additionally, during the application process there will computer lab space available where students can receive assistance with their applications.

Adams encouraged any questions to be directed towards reslife@middlebury.edu or Karin Hall-Kolts (khall@middlebury.edu). There is detailed information about Middlebury housing available on the Middlebury Residential Life website at go/floorplans and go/quicklist.



MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
Doug Adams.

FAM Invites Vermont Planned Parenthood Leader to Speak

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ator John McCain's dissenting vote, helped bring down the amendment.

"What an epic, epic time, but we won! We won! We won our first major battle," Feeser said. "And one of the major things to really emphasize here, is that we can think of the brand, but most importantly what made this most successful was our people."

With a slide titled "The Urgency of Now," Feeser moved on to talk about Planned Parenthood in 2018. She explained that because of the special elections that take place in states like Virginia and Alabama, more senators support Planned Parenthood now than in Jan. 2017.

"This helps us potentially avoid another vote against the Affordable Care Act and also entitlement reform," she said.

At the beginning of 2018, Paul Ryan vocalized plans to implement entitlement program reforms, which would mean deep cuts to Medicaid, Social Security and the ACA. Planned Parenthood has been preparing for attacks on these programs.

When Feeser asked who in the group knew what Title X entailed, only a few people raised their hands. "This is what they want to have happen," she said. "They want people to not be educated about how access to birth control and reproductive health is funded."

Title X is the federal family planning program that provides funding to Planned Parenthood, allowing the organization to provide services to its patients on a sliding pay scale. It includes access to birth control, STI/STD testing and treatment and pregnancy testing. It does not include abortion services.

In February, the Trump admin-

istration said it would create new standards on how it would generate money for people who apply for Title X funding. The administration is aiming to provide preferential treatment to providers that promote abstinence-only, natural rhythm method, homeopathic birth control and other related services. This move would potentially exclude providers of more specialized birth control methods like the IUD and Nexplanon, which are 99 percent effective.

"This is the fight that we'll most likely be fighting this summer," Feeser said.

Feeser began the forum on a local level, asking the group one thing they would like to change on campus. At the end of the forum, Feeser addressed the group directly and called for a plan of action on a campus level.

"It was really meaningful to hear all the great ideas everyone had,"

FAM co-president Cara Eisenstein '18 said. "We are writing an Op-ed to the Campus about the #Fight4BirthControl campaign we will soon be launching on campus, where our long term goal is to have Middlebury's administration make a public statement affirming their continued support for including no-cost contraceptives as part of the health insurance plan."

FAM will petition for this campaign in the library the week after spring break. The club will create a go/link at its meeting on Tuesday from 8-9 p.m. in the Chellis House that will be a resource for information on the sexual and reproductive health services available through the college and in town.

This forum was another installment in the Generation Action initiative, which FAM reestablished this fall with a forum led by Feeser.

Enough is Enough: Vermonters Take Action on Guns



Students line the Cross Street Bridge in downtown Middlebury during a walkout against gun violence.

EMMA STAPLETON



Students held signs while standing silently in protest.

EMMA STAPLETON

Vermont Senate Passes Three Gun Control Bills

By KENZO OKAZAKI
Staff Writer

MONTPELIER — On Feb. 14, Nicolas Cruz opened fire on students at Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida with an AR-15 assault rifle, killing 17 students and wounding 17 more. This act of what Florida governor Rick Scott termed “pure evil” has sparked become a watershed moment, national action for gun control.

On Mar. 14, a month after the massacre, thousands of high school students across the country walked out of their classes to demand action on gun control from Congress. However, the walkout was not limited to high schoolers; many college students joined in support of gun control legislation, including many Middlebury College students and faculty.

Closer to home, a foiled school shooting attempt in Rutland, Vermont also brought gun control to the attention of the Vermont legislature. Just days after the Parkland shooting, Jack Sawyer, a former student of Fair Haven Union High School, plotted to commit a similar shooting there. It was only through a tip to the police from a friend that his intentions were discovered. Sawyer, 18, had purchased a 12 gauge shotgun and had written of his willingness to follow through on the plot in a diary he titled “Journal of an Active Shooter.”

This foiled plot, on top of the Parkland shooting, has brought a great deal of attention to the national conversation about gun control. On the VT Senate floor, Democratic Senator Phil Baruth recently noted that “mass shootings are a viral phenomenon, and Vermont has caught that virus, like every other state in the union.”

In the face of this phenomenon, Vermont’s state house has responded

Senate voted for this bill. Republican Senator Randy Brock supported the bill along the lines that it was not gun control, but “lunatic-control.” Even Governor Phil Scott’s tone on gun control has been subject to change in the face of these events.

The passage of this “Extreme Risk” bill in the Senate is intimately related to a similar bill passed by the VT House of Representatives a year ago, which would allow police to confiscate firearms from perpetrators of domestic abuse. Sears, who sponsored the “Extreme Risk” bill, was skeptical of the domestic violence bill because of its possible infringement upon due process. His recent bill, therefore, requires a court order before any confiscation can take place.

While the Senate has refused to act on the domestic violence bill since last year, the House added the “Extreme Risk” bill and language from the domestic violence bill to their own H. 675. Lawmakers must now decide on which language to accept or compromise.

While the “Extreme Risk” bill gained a great amount of traction in the Senate, other measures taken in response to the Parkland shooting and Fair Haven plot have not had such united support. On Mar. 1, the Senate narrowly approved an amendment to another bill (S. 55) to include language regarding universal background checks in purchasing firearms. Seven Days reported that the amendment would require the purchaser of a firearm to undergo a federal criminal background check.

This amendment faced some opposition, passing by a vote of 17 to 13. Republican Senator Joe Benning, an opponent of the bill, took the Senate floor to emphasize the ineffectiveness of background checks by reading off a list of school shootings committed by individuals who underwent such checks. Senator John Rodgers also opposed the bill on the grounds that the use of a background check would impose additional costs on those attempting to purchase a firearm.

The day after the Senate’s vote on the universal background check amendment, the Senate passed another measure to S. 55 to increase the age of purchasing guns from 16 to 21. Seven Days reported that the bill was championed by Senate President Tim Ashe with 15 cosponsors. Ashe addressed the Senate, saying that the bill was designed to prevent young people from doing harm to either themselves or others with such dangerous weapons.

This bill passed more comfortably by a vote of 21 to 9; however, it still faced some opposition from both Republicans and Democrats in the Senate. Senator Benning, who also opposed the amendment to include universal background checks in S. 55, dissented to this measure, likening it to his time protesting the Vietnam War. He recalled that the protests occurred because one could be drafted into the military

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Local Students Protest Gun Violence

By SABINE POUX
News Editor

MIDDLEBURY — Last Wednesday morning in New York City, students laid down in the streets. In Washington, D.C., they congregated on Capitol Hill. In Middlebury, high schoolers from Middlebury Union High School (MUHS) braved the snow on the Cross Street Bridge to protest gun violence alongside thousands of their peers from across the country. The MUHS students, joined on the bridge by teachers, community members, faculty and students from the college, stood in silence for 17 minutes to honor the 17 people who were murdered at Marjory Stoneman Douglas (MSD) High School in Parkland, FL last month.

The organizers of the event, which took place on March 14, sought to both commemorate the lives lost in Parkland and demand stricter gun control laws from state and national legislators. Theo Wells-Spackman, a sophomore at MUHS, spoke to the dual nature of the protest at the event.

“Those 17 minutes of silence were to remember the lives lost in Parkland, and to all the families who lost students there, our hearts are with you,” he said into a megaphone. “But we’re also here to demand change. Something has to happen in government. What is there right now is not enough.”

While high schoolers elsewhere walked out of their classes to protest gun violence, students at MUHS woke up Wednesday morning to a snow day. Although the weather made it difficult for some students to attend the event, both sides of the bridge were almost completely covered with protesters by 10 a.m. Many carried signs and chanted slogans such as “We want change” and “No more silence, end gun violence.”

Although there was no physical walkout at the March 14 protest, over 100 student demonstrators, determined to practice their acts of civil disobedience, stepped out of their classes and observed 17 minutes of silence the following Monday, March 19. After the moments of silence, 17 students read short bios for each of the victims.



Students and community members stand in protest.

EMMA STAPLETON

Middlebury State Reps Talk Guns

By RACHEL COHEN
Contributing Writer

MIDDLEBURY — In an interview following their monthly “Meet Your Representatives” session on Mar. 17, Representatives Amy Sheldon, D-Middlebury, and Robin Scheu, D-Middlebury, discussed the most pressing issues currently facing Middlebury and Vermont as a whole.

The interview topics included gun violence prevention legislation currently being discussed in the House and Senate, as well as bills that Sheldon and Scheu are working on in their committees, including the House Committee on Fish, Wildlife and Water Resources and the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, respectively.

After last month’s school shooting in Parkland, Florida and the arrest of the Vermont teenager accused of planning a school shooting at Fair Ha-

ven High School, gun legislation has been the hot topic in the state legislature. Governor Phil Scott, who once believed that a mass shooting could not happen in Vermont, changed his mind after reading the affidavit for the Fair Haven incident. “I began to understand that we’re not as special as we thought,” he told Vermont Public Radio on Friday, Mar. 16.

Rep. Scheu said that while she is not sure of the extent to which the opinions of her colleagues in the Vermont House and Senate have shifted as a result of Gov. Scott’s change in mindset, she believes that it has opened the door for new conversations. “It’s given us the opportunity to go forth and push some gun violence prevention legislation that has been very difficult to push in the past,” she said.

Rep. Sheldon noted that there has been movement in the House and the

not be safe being who I am as a person, and now I’m not safe being who I am as a student.”

On March 7, MUHS principal William D. Lawson emailed students expressing his support for the protests.

“I write to let you know that I share and support the goals of the many students and others who are voicing their urgent concern with school safety and the unfortunate incidents of gun-related violence that have plagued our schools across the country,” he wrote, adding that students would not face consequences for missing class for the

“Those 17 minutes of silence were to remember the lives lost in Parkland, and to all the families who lost students there, our hearts are with you.”

walkout but would require parental permission for the march to the bridge.

“Immediately after the Florida school shooting, students in school were sharing/voicing their anxiety around the issue of school violence and safety,” Lawson said in an interview with The Campus. “I felt that it was important for them to give voice to their concerns and to take some reasonable actions that might serve to improve the current conditions. Psychologists tell us that these actions will help students re-balance their anxiety by giving them a sense of control.”

Ward said that the email got mixed responses at MUHS.

“We were really hoping to make a statement with leaving class, without permission,” she said. “A lot of us thought sure, it would be nice to not get detention, but at the same time, the civil disobedience part of it has kind of been taken away from our hands.”

The email came nearly two weeks after Vermont Secretary of Education Rebecca Holcombe sent out a memorandum asking superintendents not to encourage protests that would disrupt classes or pose safety threats to students leaving school without permission. Lawson noted that he coordinated with local police officers to ensure students’ security for the protest in town.

The assemblage of college students and faculty that joined the high schoolers on the bridge was in part led by Julian Gerson ’18, co-founder and president of Middlebury Students Against Gun Violence (MSAGV). Gerson and Cooper Babbitt ’18.5 founded MSAGV after the Parkland shooting and have been holding weekly meetings since.

Gerson created a Facebook event to advertise the protest and was aided by the SGA, which sent out a school-wide email about the event the day prior. Gerson also gratefully noted that there was support for the protest from many professors, who permitted and encouraged their students to miss class to attend.

See “Students” on Page A4

The widespread support of this bill is another indication of the impact recent school shootings have had on Vermont; all seven Republican members of Vermont’s Senate voted for this bill.

ed by taking action in the Senate. On Wednesday, Feb. 28, Vermont’s Senate unanimously passed a bill that would permit police to confiscate firearms from any individual whom a court deems an “extreme risk” to either themselves or others. Senate Judiciary chair Dick Sears sponsored the bill and conveyed the impact of recent shootings, telling Seven Days that “Fair Haven jolted us all.”

The widespread support of this bill is another indication of the impact these recent school shootings have had on Vermont; all seven Republican members of Vermont’s

See “Reps” on Page A4

Reps Discuss Pertinent Issues for Middlebury

Continued from Page A3

the House, and believe that the House Judiciary Committee will add amendments, which the Senate will then have to approve before the bill officially passes.

This week, though, will be a busy week on the floor of the House with deliberations occurring for H.911, an act relating to changes in Vermont's personal income tax and education financing, so discussion on S.55 may be pushed to the following week.

Rep. Sheldon, a hunter and gun owner herself, said that she wants to preserve access to guns for people who are safe with them, but has been in favor of regulating access to guns to prevent gun violence for her entire political career. It's clear to her that Vermont needs a "multi-pronged approach" to gun legislation, and "we need to do as much as we can."

For Rep. Scheu, a multi-pronged approach includes universal background checks; extreme-risk protection orders; getting guns out of the hands of domestic violence offenders; limiting magazine capacity, speed and bump stocks; and banning assault weapons — an amendment that she does not believe will pass through the legislature this year.

The representatives also spoke to work that they are doing in their respective committees.

Rep. Sheldon is working on legislation based on the Pollinator Protection Commission's 2015 report to limit pollinators' exposure to neonicotinoids (neonics). "It's clear that they are seeing effects," she said of local beekeepers whose hives have been harmed by the pesticides used on many Vermont farms.

Sheldon proposed a ban on household products containing neonics and the limiting of the sale of neonic-coated seeds, but the only measure to pass through the House was one that mandated access to non-treated seeds.

Sheldon said this is a "baby step" in the right direction, but she is "disappointed that it's so watered down" from her original bill.

When asked how she will support Vermont farmers while addressing water quality and other environmental issues, Sheldon responded, "It's on my mind daily. We love our farmers; we support our farmers," she said. But, it's "important to realize that the negative impacts of conventional farming right now are affecting public trust resources."

Next week, Rep. Sheldon, along with a group of other Vermonters, will be in New York City for the sixty-second session of the Commission on the Status of Women at the UN. She will speak to what Vermont has done in terms of fostering access to food and supporting a healthy environment.

Rep. Scheu, who is on the House Committee on Corrections and Institutions, said that the legislature has "little appetite" for the 925-bed prison complex that was proposed earlier this year and garnered substantial media attention. Additionally, she said there is "even less appetite for the for-profit option."

Right now, Scheu's priority is figuring out how to improve medical-assisted treatment in corrections facilities. The committee is assessing many options for how to do "corrections the Vermont way," including supporting a study on the effectiveness of restorative justice in cases of domestic and sexual violence.

Overall, the representatives said that a substantial amount of legislation will be discussed in the next few weeks. "It's a good time to be paying attention," Scheu said.

They encourage students to come to the State House to make their voices heard on important pieces of legislation.



One of Skinny Pancake's signature crepes, "The Lovemaker."

skinnypancake.com

Skinny Pancake Ditches Nutella

By MARIA KAOURIS
Contributing Writer

BURLINGTON—Customers clamor to see the menu, kids are raised on to parents' shoulders to get a superior view and the sweet smell of crêpes wafts through the building.

Vermonters who have been to The Skinny Pancake in Burlington, VT can vouch for the popularity of the restaurant. Garnering over 470 reviews and a hefty four stars on Yelp, The Skinny Pancake on the Burlington Waterfront attracts both locals and out-of-towners. Its versatile breakfast, lunch and dinner options also offer choices for vegan, gluten-free and other diet-restricted diners.

Perhaps one of The Skinny Pancake's biggest staples is its Sweet Menu. Known for items such as "The Heartbreaker," a banana, strawberry and Nutella-filled crêpe, this restaurant is described on Yelp as a "heavenly" and "life-changing" experience. Why, then, have owners and founders Benjy and Jonny Adler chosen to remove Nutella, an integral crêpe ingredient, from the menu?

The answer rests in The Skinny Pancake's roots. Founded on being an ecologically sustainable business venture, the restaurant seeks out the creation of an environmentally safe "food shed" while maintaining a tasty menu. This overarching mission was the impetus to ditch Nutella and confront the product's number two ingredient—modified palm oil, which is infamous for its detrimental environmental impact. In a statement on The Skinny Pancake website, Benjy Adler explains that the creation of modified palm oil plantations is responsible for the equivalent of 300 football fields worth of rainforest being torn down every hour. With oil palms replacing trees for production of this sugary hazelnut spread, environmentalists have grown concerned about the impact Nutella and similar products are having on the environment.

Even France's ecology minister, Ségolène Royal, shared in a 2015 interview with Canal+ that, "We have to plant a lot of trees because there is massive deforestation that also leads to [climate change]. We should stop eating Nutella, for example, because it's made with palm oil."

Although Ferrero, Nutella's parent company, has attempted to diminish its ecological footprint, its priority remains catering to the consumer rather than maintaining rainforest biodiversity. With the demand for palm oil plantations expected to triple by the year 2050, The Skinny Pancake has decided to make an impact where it can. Both Benjy and Jonny Adler see it as their collective mission to avoid contributing to this deforestation and to

reduce the environmental impact of their business venture.

The importance of rainforests for global environmental health cannot be overstated—rainforests produce over one-fifth of our oxygen, house diverse populations of both plants and animals and help maintain the climate. Although Benjy and Jonny recognize this, they did struggle with reconciling their environmental mission and satisfying their customers.

Concerned about reduced customer satisfaction as a result of their ecological quest, The Skinny Pancake founders reached out to Alan Newman, co-founder of Magic Hat Brewery, Seventh Generation and Gardener's Supply Company, for advice. After speaking with Newman, Benjy Adler wrote in a blog post that he realized, "Our Nutella conundrum need not be a binary choice between our values or our guests. We can pursue our mission and improve the tastes our guests have come to love." With this adjusted mindset and the affirmation of The Skinny Pancake's mission, the Adlers entered into the search for an ecologically-viable (and delicious)

"Our Nutella conundrum need not be a binary choice between our values or our guests. We can pursue our mission and improve the tastes our guests have come to love."

substitute for Nutella.

They finally settled on a delectable alternative, which is listed as "Choco Nutty Budder" on the revamped menu. As this palm-oil-free chocolate hazelnut spread made its way onto the menu, the eco-friendly owners added 15 new menu items, abandoned 10, and changed 12. Their desire to rid The Skinny Pancake of Nutella created structural menu changes that gave the restaurant a facelift and encouraged other sustainable practices.

In a Burlington Free Press interview, Benjy Adler reported that, "In keeping with our mission, we dug deeper into sourcing locally. We will be featuring Vermont blueberries on our menu year-round now, and we're finally joining the movement to celebrate organic Vermont kale in all its glory." It seems that The Skinny Pancake's anti-palm-oil kick motivated the owners/founders to embrace the Green Mountain State's food riches and implement changes that create an enhanced local image for their business venture.

While the implementation of Choco Nutty Budder will soon be appearing on the menus of other Skinny Pancake branches (including the Montpelier, VT and Hanover, NH branches), it seems that there has also been a fairly recent reframing of The Skinny Pancake's business model. After a company-wide customer survey, the higher-ups of Skinny Pancake discovered that patrons of the Hanover branch desired an expanded non-crêpe menu, a bigger selection of alcohol, and the implementation of wait staff instead of the semi-service model in which customers order at the register after waiting in line.

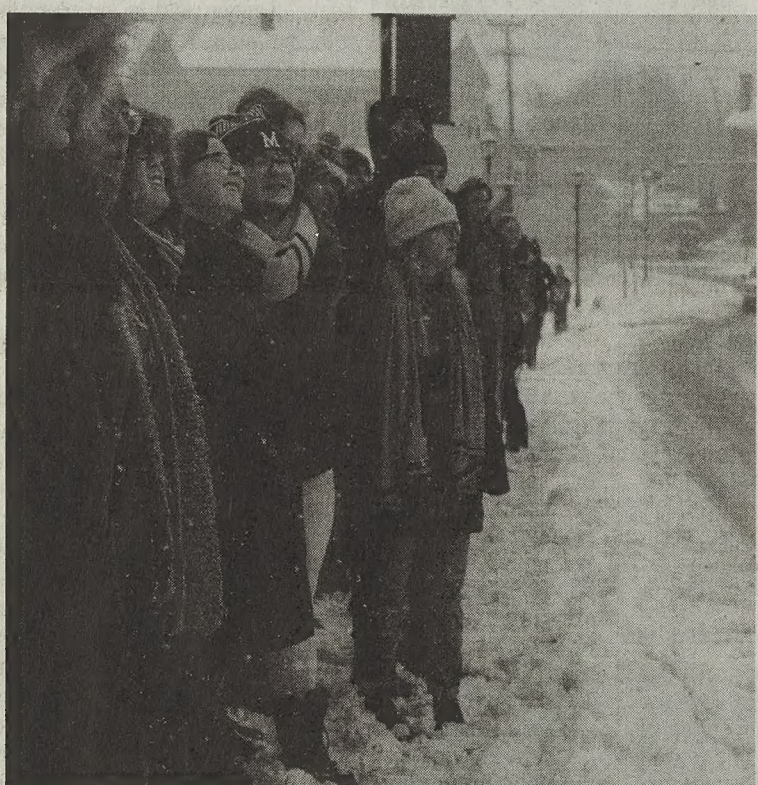
While the creation of a more formal dining experience has not been as explicitly pursued in the Vermont branches, the changes in the New Hampshire branch signify the versatility of The Skinny Pancake and the owners' willingness to evolve to satisfy customers while simultaneously maintaining ecological values.

Although Benjy and Jonny were initially concerned with customer satisfaction after the abandonment of Nutella, University of Vermont freshman Sam Brady, who considers herself a Skinny Pancake regular, affirms the general scope of their decisions. In an interview with The Campus, she divulged, "I know a lot of people really love Nutella on their crêpes... but it's not good for the environment. Skinny Pancake's environmental choices are very important to me because it helps reduce environmental waste."

The "waste" that Brady refers to can be categorized as the ecological destruction that results in restaurants ignoring the implications of the ingredients they choose and the way in which they prepare their food. With over 7,200 pounds of Nutella spread used in 2017 alone at The Skinny Pancake, environmentally-conscious customers like Brady see the benefit, and even the draw, of small changes that are intended to transcend the Vermont community and discourage the current production method of modified palm oil.

While some organizations such as Greenpeace claim a boycott will not necessarily affect the problematic mode of production, it is clear that more sustainable food practices will develop if local restaurants cultivate changes such as The Skinny Pancake has.

According to Dan Detora, the director of food services, the SGA has allotted \$20,000 for Nutella alone this year in Middlebury dining halls. The deliberate choice of local food chains like Skinny Pancake to eliminate the palm oil product provides an example of sustainable food practices that could lead students and the college to follow in similar sustainable food activism.



EMMA STAPLETON

Students protests in downtown Middlebury undeterred by snow.

Students Protest Lack of Gun Control

Continued from Page A3

Gerson said it was important to him to show solidarity with the MUHS protestors.

"I think it takes a lot of bravery and a lot of vulnerability to be a 17 year old organizing this big thing and I just wanted to make sure they had people there, supporting them, and that they knew this was a cause that a lot of people had their backs on," he said.

"It was so powerful to see all of the college students there," said Herren-Lage. "It was really wonderful to be able to combine forces and do it as one group because I think that's really the point of this movement."

Going forward, MSAGV will focus its efforts mainly on carrying out on-campus advocacy work and influencing gun control legislation.

Despite the impressive turnout and support from the school, MUHS senior and protest organizer Andrea Boe noted that the event was not unanimously supported.

"We have a pretty split community where there are a lot of very liberal people, but there's also a big enough community who are very protective of their gun rights and the second amendment," she said. "So I think we definitely had a huge community that was for the protests but also a smaller and slightly quieter community that was not."

Vermont has a complicated history with gun control. Although a blue state in many respects, it has some of the laxest gun laws in the country. The dangers of these weak laws became apparent when last month, just days

after the Parkland shooting, officials from Rutland County thwarted the plans of an 18-year-old from Poultney, Vt. who intended to shoot up Fair Haven Union High School in Fair Haven, Vt. The boy was preparing to buy a 9 mm Glock and an AR-15, both which he would have legally been able to purchase. He had planned to carry out the shooting Mar. 14.

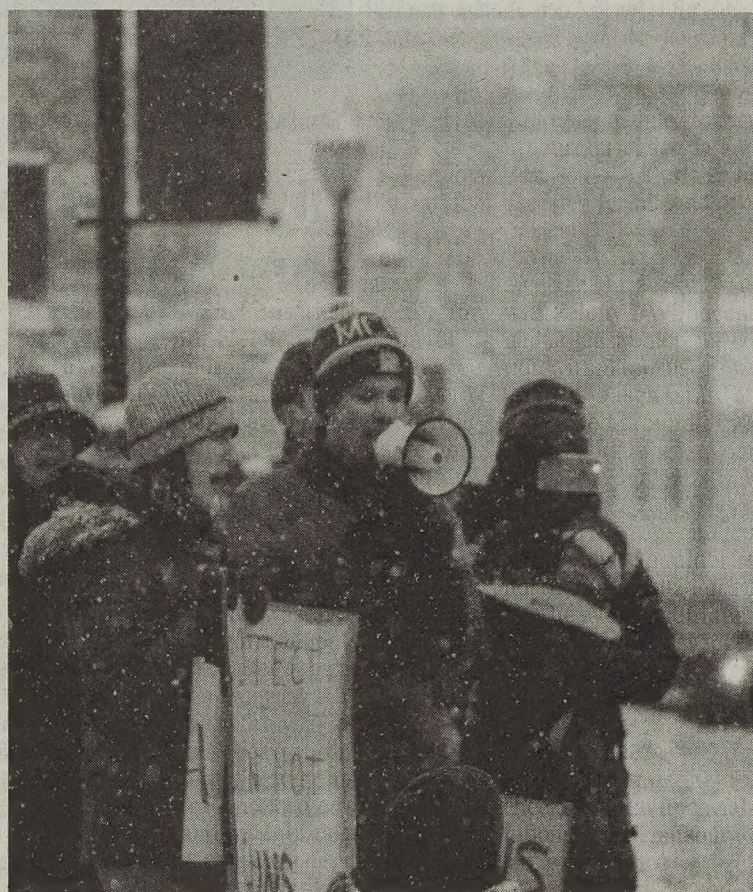
The obstructed Fair Haven shooting proved influential within Vermont politics. Vt. Governor Phil Scott, a Republican and once-fervent opponent to gun control laws, has begun pursuing limitations on gun ownership as a result.

"I have thought for quite some time that Vermont was immune to this type of thing," Scott said in Montpelier the week after the shooting.

Herren-Lage, whose father worked at Fair Haven high school until this year, talked of a similar feeling of immunity.

"I have friends that have always said, 'Oh, it will never happen to us,' but we really can never say that," she said. "It's genuinely terrifying to walk into school everyday and see all my friends and not necessarily know if I'm going to see them again."

Lawson echoed her sentiments. "I have to say that there is not a morning that I don't get up thinking about the bad possibilities that could happen to my students, colleagues or frankly to myself," he said.



EMMA STAPLETON

Theo Wells-Spackman, a sophomore at MUHS, leads protesters in chants during the walkout.

Gun Control Bills Sweep Senate

Continued from Page A3

at 18 but could not vote until 21. It would be similarly outrageous, he said, that one could be drafted into the military while not being able to purchase a firearm. Senator John Rodgers offered a similar critique, saying that by drafting individuals at 18, the government recognizes their maturity.

Gov. Scott has also changed his tone in response to recent events. Seven Days reported that Gov. Scott campaigned on an anti-gun control platform, but has now called for reform. At a press conference on Mar. 1, Gov. Scott said, "I think Vermonters are looking for us to do something." Taking action, he said, "sends a message that we care, we can put politics aside and do what's right." Seven Days reported that Gov. Scott said he would probably support both universal background checks and raising the legal age to purchase firearms to 21.

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Our Staff Deserve Better

By THE EDITORIAL BOARD

In an op-ed published in last week's edition of The Campus, Professor Noah Graham discussed the massive paychecks allotted to top administrators at the college. During the 2015–2016 fiscal year, these included numbers like \$482,773 for the Monterey President/Special Advisor for Initiatives and \$458,932 for the Vice President for Finance and Treasurer. A commenter on Graham's op-ed wrote that they were "embarrassed, infuriated, and pained by this information. Everyone knows that Middlebury College is not a beacon of equity and inclusion, but I did not realize that the situation was this dire — that our own administrators were perpetuating the income gap that I am sure they speak frequently of closing." Truly appalling, however, is the stark contrast posed by a comparison of these paychecks to those on a spreadsheet of Middlebury staff pay ranges, where some yearly salaries amount to as little as \$22,165.00. (It should be acknowledged that some staff work part time, thereby lowering this number.) Such inequality, while extremely pronounced, is not surprising; income inequality exists across the U.S., and the Middlebury College community is no exception. At the same time, Middlebury compares itself to 21 institutions — NESCAC and other liberal arts colleges — and finds itself among the upper echelon for exempt (salaried) workers, but just above the median for non-exempt (hourly) workers.

The workers who belong to the latter category form the vanguard of day-to-day staff interaction with students at Middlebury College, and wage inequality is just one injustice they face: we are all aware that the students with whom the dining hall and custodial staff interact on a daily basis behave disrespectfully and embarrassingly towards these workers. As a board, we would like to call for the improved treatment of Middlebury's wage-earning staff on the part of both the administration and the student body. The administration, on its part, should increase non-exempt workers' abysmally low wages. We as students can, and must, elevate our behavior in dining halls, dorms and other campus spaces from that of children to that of the college-age adults we are.

A recent example of student misconduct came last week when the

SGA sent out an email announcing the suspension of 10 o'clock Ross. The email identified issues with "cleanliness, including ice cream spills, dirty dishes, and general disarray." The email went on to point out how "the Ross Dining Hall Staff trusts the student body by allowing us to enjoy late-night snacks in the dining hall after hours and we have failed to step up to the task." This is not the first cancellation of 10 o'clock Ross: last year, the discovery of beer bottles and other uncleanness led to a similar suspension.

Students' behavior indicates a severe lack of consideration for our staff, which manifests weeknight after weeknight. We are better than this; dining hall staff should under no circumstances be called upon to clean up childlike messes made by adult students. It's hard to blame Ross Dining Hall for a suspension that seems so fitting; students are acting like elementary school kids, and as a result are having their ice cream and sugared cereal privileges taken away.

A similar pattern of thoughtlessness occurs in dorms. The custodial staff routinely has to deal with problems beyond what should be reasonably expected of them. Among these are dirty dishes, left out in the hallway by students too lazy to return them to their rightful dining hall. An email to residents of Coffrin Hall called for improved student behavior in light of beer cans being left in hallways, signs being ripped off of doors and vomit in bathrooms. On a floor in Milliken Hall, a custodial staff member has taken to leaving notes, often humorous in nature, in an attempt to make students realize that their actions have tangible consequences. "My mother works with disabled elementary school kids," reads a note above the hall garbage cans, "and even they know how to recycle." This indicates that the normal systems of response — which consists largely of hall-wide emails sent out by RAs — are not enough to keep students mindful of staff. Whether it be food fights in Ross, people drunkenly leaving behind their plates on St. Patrick's Day or students leaving dirty dishes in hallways, students constantly act in ways that make the lives of staff members more unpleasant.

Another example of this lack of respect has arisen with the new swipe system implemented in dining halls. Students interact with dining hall workers every time they

get a meal, swiping in inches away from a seated staff member. "If people forget their card, they get pretty upset with me," says a worker at Ross who is responsible for overseeing the new swipe system. "I don't make the rules, I'm just following them."

Overall, the significance of students' lack of consideration for staff cannot be overstated. Staff are working diligently to perform duties beyond the scope of their responsibilities while receiving inadequate compensation for the duties within their job descriptions. We are not arguing that paying non-exempt workers more would justify current student treatment towards them — regardless of income level, this treatment is unacceptable. Paying them more would, however, demonstrate that the Middlebury community values them and their jobs.

The President of Kentucky State University set a glowing precedent in 2014, taking a \$90,000 pay cut and distributing it among the university's lowest income employees. As a result, 24 employees salaries raised from \$7.25 to \$10.25 per hour, representing a huge increase in yearly earnings. "This is not a gift," said President Burse, "it's an investment." We are not asking for anyone at Middlebury to take a pay cut, as such band-aid action does not challenge or alter systemic issues at the root of wage inequality. However, the ethos of Burse's action applies; by treating staff with financial respect and care, we invest in the school the same way we do when paying out large "stay bonuses" to various administrators. Middlebury's administration should apply this same ethos in considering future pay rates for non-exempt employees.

While profound disparities in Middlebury's pay scale staff are beyond students' ability to change, treatment of staff remains very much within student control. This means recycling, so that custodial staff do not have to do it for us. This means returning our own dirty dishes to the dining hall when we've finished our most recent unlimited meal. And it means recognizing that the staff are not in charge of systems like swipe-ins, however personally irritating we might find them. We as students may not be able to increase paychecks, but we can at least try to account for the difference in basic human decency.

IN SUPPORT OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN THE PUBLIC SPHERE

As faculty members who helped to spread the word about the Mar. 14 school walkout led by students from the Middlebury Union High School, we were gratified to see such a large turnout this morning from the college community, including President Patton. It is heartening that so many Middlebury students, faculty, staff and other community members joined in solidarity with young people at the forefront of social change.

We are distressed, however, with some of the content of an "all staff" email that our staff colleagues received at 2:00 p.m. on Mar. 13, on the eve of the march.

That email stated that "[the institution's] obligation is to conduct classes and provide services to our students. In order to provide these services we need all of our scheduled classes taught and offices opened and staffed." If the leaders of the institution expected scheduled classes to be taught during the walkout, why wasn't this (or a comparable) note sent to all faculty? Are the expectations about "employees' engagement in protests and civic activity" different for faculty and staff? If so, why?

The "all staff" email went on to say that "[i]f staff choose to take time off for such activities, they should follow the college's regular time-off policy by requesting time off in advance, and supervisors should review and approve those requests keeping in mind our need to maintain normal operations." It is not clear to us that all staff would have had the time — from 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday to 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday — to secure such approvals from their supervisors. Moreover, we are concerned about the possibly intimidating effect of this email's iteration of staff responsibilities, particularly since the email's ostensible function as a "reminder" about the need to request permission for an absence from work is belied by its timing right before the protest. Furthermore, Middlebury faculty (as far as we know) were certainly not asked to secure permission from their department chairs, program heads and/or the Dean of Faculty to participate in this civic event. Is this a double standard? If so, why is this appropriate?

We do not doubt the sincerity of the email's final sentiments: "We are supportive of your civic engagement, and encourage you to increase your awareness of the issues of our times." Indeed, it is precisely because we are certain that the college's leadership feels this way that we hope, upon the occasion of the next comparable community event, that staff and faculty will be treated in the same manner. Regarding robust civic engagement in the public sphere, the faculty's status should never be privileged.

Laurie Essig, Gender, Feminist & Sexuality Studies; **Jon Isham**, Economics and Environmental Studies; **Michael Sheridan**, Sociology/Anthropology; **Marion Wells**, English & American Literatures

IN SUPPORT OF COLLABORATIVE, INFORMAL ART DISPLAYS

By MIKE PALLOZZI

I "joined" the Darkroom Club a little over two years ago, during the days when Michael O'Hara's camera reigned supreme on campus and in The Campus, with the hopes of learning how to develop and print the black and white film I had been shooting. They were offering a J-term workshop for newbies. I signed right up and received the ABCs of film processing. There were a few other eager students along for the ride, and Michael and Sebastian Zavoico encouraged us to go out and shoot some winterscapes together. It never happened. After the workshop I didn't see the students or any of their photography again.

At the time it felt strange that these people were creating beautiful works of art and had seemingly no desire to share them with their fellow photographers with similar pursuits. I jokingly told my suitemate at the time, Andrew Schwartz, that we should start a film collective and get people together to bounce ideas around and go out on shoots. The potential was there, but I lacked the motivation in the midst of a grueling spring semester to get anything off the ground.

A year and a half later and I'm sitting at my kitchen table over winter break compiling a list of student photographers and filmmakers into what is now the Middlebury College Film and Photography Collective. Fancy name, yeah? Don't be fooled. The Facebook group description reads, "An informal collective with the purpose of collaborating on, sharing and exhibiting works of photographic visual art." The cover photo is a still of Jimmy Stewart in Rear Window wielding a massive telephoto lens.

In creating this group, my intention was to provide a space where students could share their personal work, which would otherwise only make it to the fleeting platforms of social media. The realization of this space was a student-run photography exhibit that displayed the stunning photos of twelve artists upon the walls of Meeker House on a Friday evening. There were grapes and cheese and crackers (courtesy of Cook Commons) accompanied by the musical talents of Max

Shashoua. The great many who attended were able to engage directly with the artists themselves, ask them questions and strike up discussions about the photos hung proudly behind them.

This wasn't a professional or academic gathering. We didn't put it together through the pathways that the college attempts to provide (though we are grateful for the resources they did provide). We wanted it done on our terms, not MCAB's. So we made it as informal as could be: a delightful evening throw together by a community of students with a pure and simple love for the photographic image.

Even still, it requires the work of many to put on an event that, in its realization, appears effortless. Will Lupica and I spent four hours fiddling around with the photo printer until we realized that the paper roll had been inserted backwards. Charlotte Reider-Smith donated her home for the evening and for many afternoons to help plan the event. Max Shashoua sang and played guitar in the living room for well over the hour he promised us. Mac Christopher, hobbling around on a freshly torn ACL, and Arden Coleman spent the whole afternoon with me hanging up photos. And to the photographers for entrusting me with their work, along with all friends and family who came to make the evening into the joyous success that it was, I thank you.

That day left me with the conviction that this style of gathering is not unique and has implications for the exhibition of other forms of art — be it dance, music, poetry, etc. Spaces like the Gamut Room and groups like Poor Form already do a great job of this. However, so that it is not misconstrued, I take no particular issue with College-sponsored art. I think they do a tremendous job of making accessible and affordable a wide variety of art to the college and town communities. I simply believe in, and strongly advocate for, more student events that keep it simple, make it casual and offer more beer. There are a great many ways for students to gather together over a shared interest or passion, it just requires a little work and a lotta love.



From left to right: Robert Cassidy, Kate McCluskey and Mike Pallozzi next to photographs by Pallozzi at the Meeker event

#Fight4BirthControl

BY ALLIE STEVENS
ON BEHALF OF FEMINIST ACTION MIDDLEBURY (FAM)

Fifty-three percent. According to a study done in 2013 by College Factual, this is the percentage of our student body that identifies as female, and the percentage that constantly has to worry how their college hookups with a man may change their entire life trajectory. The current presidential administration is threatening to significantly roll back the Affordable Care Act (ACA), particularly attacking the birth control mandate that makes no-cost contraceptives readily accessible. Due to this, 53 percent of our community will continue to be anxious about their rights to their own bodies until Middlebury College demonstrates its support, stating that healthcare system changes will not affect student access to contraception.

According to Planned Parenthood's website, nine out of 10 women will be on some form of birth control throughout their lives; before the ACA's birth control provision, one in three women struggled to afford birth control. As Planned Parenthood reports, the ACA rollbacks have been a huge loss for Planned Parenthood's movement. If the courts decide in favor of the Trump

administration, these changes will allow companies, universities and other institutions to choose whether or not they will cover contraceptive methods or Plan B as a part of the insurance they offer based on moral or religious beliefs. Therefore, if you receive health care coverage from Middlebury College, the college would be able to decide whether or not your birth control method will be covered by their plan.

In response to the Trump administration's attacks on the birth control mandate, Planned Parenthood's national movement, which is fighting to protect women's access to contraceptives and ensure that they retain agency over their own bodies, has seen a huge influx of over one million new supporters. Planned Parenthood's #Fight4BirthControl campaign is working to educate people on why these rollbacks matter, who they affect and what we can do to take action and fight back. According to an article on the Planned Parenthood website, young women, especially women of color and the LGBTQ+ community, will be the most affected by these rollbacks, as before the ACA provisions, these were the groups already disproportionately vulnerable to lack of access to birth control.

Campus campaigns are popping up around the nation in the hope

that their colleges or universities will make a statement ensuring no-cost access to contraceptive methods. Princeton University's website explains their #Fight4BirthControl petition day in which they collected 300 signatures to urge the administration to continue their commitment to their students' care, regardless of federal government policy changes. Feminist Action at Middlebury (FAM), a student organization on campus that acts as a Planned Parenthood Generation Action Branch, is committed to continuing this fight here at Middlebury College by tabling in the library entrance-way the week after spring break with these petitions.

The long-term goal of FAM is to get Middlebury's administration to release a statement that demonstrates to our student body their commitment to our reproductive health and our ability to make decisions about our reproductive future. Birth control should not be controversial. It is a human right, and it should be protected.

If you are interested in the #Fight4BirthControl campaign that we will soon be launching on campus or have other feminist issues you are passionate about, please attend a FAM meeting on Tuesday nights in the Chellis House from 8:00-9:00 p.m.

The Kids Are Not Alright

By JULIAN GERSON

We kids, the youth of America, those of us still figuring out who we are and what we want to do and whether or not we really do know anything after all, have more power than we could ever know. This is a realization I arrived at on the Cross Street Bridge, as I looked into the eyes of adults — many of them professors at the college — and saw fear and humility and pride, but certainly not a single answer.

No, it was we kids — planned by a few articulate and courageous 16- and 17-year-olds from Middlebury Union High — who had organized and led the Walkout Against Gun Violence, not because we were more Facebook adept or knew how to make better signs than the adults, but rather because we are burdened by the weight of innocence.

It is not we kids who have compromised our integrity by bending our will to NRA campaign donations, nor is it we who have stood aside complacently as these shootings have grown more frequent and more destructive. Yet when anyone sees their defenseless classmate shot, their body brutalized and their memory violated through systemic inaction and hollow, meaningless offers of thoughts and prayers, it is us. We have grown up in an America where toddlers are trained for active shooter drills, where kids halfway through puberty hear a loud sound in first period English and instinctively text their parents that they love them, where students have to stream out of their schools by the thousands, wiping the sleep from their eyes, to plead with the adults who make the decisions to change something so that they don't have to worry about getting shot while they're trying to figure out who to ask to prom. The urgent voices of David Hogg and Emma González and Theo Spackman-Wells cannot be silenced because they are loud and they are innocent and they are right. We are innocent because no one else is.

At 10 years old, I was a fifth grader who cared only about his dog and convincing his parents that he was responsible enough to scooter to school alone. It was also then that I got suspended from school for getting into a fight. A friend of mine — or someone I thought was a friend — had come up to me at recess and

pushed me, hard. A few minutes later, he came back and did it again. When I saw him circling back a third time, I walked up to him and told him in no uncertain terms that if he pushed me again, I would punch him in the face.

He pushed me, I punched him, and 10 minutes later — recess a distant memory — all I could think about was how urgently my principal needed to invest in more comfortable chairs. I cried as I was lectured about the principles of verbal de-escalation and pacifism. I sobbed even more when I was taken home, ashamed of my actions and embarrassed that I had disappointed my parents. But we didn't go home — instead, my Mom took me to my favorite restaurant, where she bought me a burger and a massive slab of chocolate cake. She told me that I had acted exactly as I should have.



Julian Gerson protesting on the Cross Street Bridge at Wednesday's protest.

"When someone is mistreating you," a mother explained to a boy whose tears had turned his cake molten, "you have no choice but to stand up for yourself, even if that means placing yourself in a precarious, vulnerable situation. Otherwise, nothing will ever change."

It was that brilliant lesson, that there is good trouble and there is bad trouble and, boy, good trouble is sometimes just absolutely necessary. This guided me last Wednesday morning as I helped lead a contingent of hundreds of Middlebury students, faculty, high schoolers and townspeople to the Cross Street Bridge. As we stood there in silence for 17 minutes, many among us intentionally derelict from class

or work, the snow-enveloped quiet punctured only by the honking of supportive cars driving by. I was young when my mother had delivered her chocolate-coated wisdom that day and I was still young on that bridge, but for the first time, my youth did feel like an obstacle but rather a platform of immense power. This was good trouble.

Kids don't typically get involved in the political process. Maybe it's because a lot of us can't vote (or don't know how to), maybe it's because video games and first kisses are more appealing than tort reform, but whatever the case, it's contributed to a perception of American youth as apathetic and uninvolved. This criticism is certainly well-founded; we definitely should vote more (it is in our interest, after all). I'm beginning to wonder, however, if the adults of America truly understood

the sleeping animal they were producing as they beseeched America's youth to get more invested. This is not a small group — the census places the number of Americans between the ages of five and 24 at roughly 83 million — and it's a group that is as exceptionally talented at harnessing crucial online mediums of communication as it is willing to bravely and boldly contest authority.

After all, if Parkland and the ensuing mass walkouts have proven anything, it's that the young voices of America have as much of a capacity to resonate loudly and fiercely as they have an unparalleled ability to identify corruption and cowardice in our public servants (just look at Marco Rubio's humiliation at the

hands of Cameron Kasky). We're fixed in our convictions as well, impossible to placate through phony gestures and empty promises. We certainly have our shortcomings — look no further than the typos in our tweets or the enthusiasm that can verge on aggression as we challenge our elected officials — but those shortcomings are strengths, for they serve as the clearest evidence of our undiluted passion and our inexperienced innocence.

There is little moderation in our policy demands — we have no re-election campaigns to run, no constituents to appease — and the result has been legislators and governors throughout the country, prodded by the thought of the extreme, willing to begin considering change. Since Parkland, there has been a surge of legislative debates over raising the minimum age to buy guns, the expansions of background checks, the banning of automatic weapons, and the closing of loopholes open to domestic abusers. What we lack in refinement, we make up for in resolve.

The push for gun control reform started long ago, led by principled adults and a select few kids often devastated by personal loss. Yet for a very long time, even after the horror of Newtown, nothing changed, with death and fear accepted as the norm. At Parkland, however, something shifted. For the first time, the kids who were forced to huddle in silent closets and locked classrooms for hours, wondering if the last thing they'd ever see was a dark muzzle emerging around a corner, refused to maintain that silence when they emerged into the light.

Something changed in the kids who survived, and as they spoke out, their stubborn activism refusing to evaporate, something clicked in thousands of other kids around the country. I am one of those kids. All of the students who walked out are those kids. For a long time, we've been quiet, hoping the adults would do their jobs and keep us safe while we learned how to ride our bikes and ask our crushes out. We aren't naive anymore. We know the impact our protests carry and the change our mobilization can effect. Not only can you count on us to stay involved, you can count on us to make our voices heard.

The kids are not all right. But we're changing that.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL DISCUSSES BOOKSTORE TRANSITION

By TINA BROOK

This past week, the Community Council held a session with Mike Roy, the Dean of the Library. During that time, we discussed two recommendations that the council is currently working toward.

The first recommendation is in regard to the recent transition to an online bookstore, rather than an on-campus bookstore. Many of the issues associated with this new system were highlighted in a Campus editorial article released on Mar. 7th. This included the difficulties the online system created during the add-drop period, and for those who utilize the financial assistance program. These issues had already come up in preliminary discussions which have taken place in the Council sessions. Many of the suggested approaches in the aforementioned article were also posed, such as opening up a similar platform to Amazon Marketplace specifically for Middlebury students, utilizing OpenSource resources and expanding the financial aid program. In the coming weeks, the council will be connecting with various stakeholders to identify possible steps that can be taken. This includes hearing the reasoning for such transition from the bookstore.

Two of the posed suggestions made within the council were enhancing the reserve system, as well as advertising the interlibrary loan system more widely. These were the two points that were focused on during conversations with Mike Roy. Following a valuable discussion about the already constrained library budget, it was understood that the reserve system could not be expanded much further. It also became apparent that this would not necessarily solve the overarching need for newer editions of textbooks. Thus, alternative approaches were raised, such as encouraging the use of OpenSource textbooks, and sharing syllabi ahead of the semester. As for the interlibrary loan system, the Community Council will include provisions in the final recommendation to encourage the library to produce a guide for this useful resource, as well as other forms of acquiring textbooks.

Roy also brought forth information regarding the debate of 24/7 library hours during exam periods. Based on the head-count from last semester's exam period, library use after 2am was consistently below 25 students. With this information in mind, the Community Council will be joining with the SGA to conduct informal student polling on whether the preference for 24/7 library hours during exam periods is a study-space issue, or resource issue.

All members of the college community are invited and encouraged to gather feedback, brainstorm solutions to a problem, and present their own concerns, questions or recommendations. Please feel free to email the Community Council at council@middlebury.edu, or attend our meetings on Monday 4:30 p.m. in Axinn 104.

WHY MIDDLEBURY SHOULD IMPLEMENT AN INTERNAL CARBON CHARGE

By BRANDON SMITH

This is the third in a series of three op-eds from the carbon pricing campaign at Middlebury. The first was focused on the federal level, the second was focused on carbon pricing in Vermont and this one endorses a carbon pricing mechanism at Middlebury College. To learn more or to get involved, come to Sunday Night Environmental Group at 8 PM at Hillcrest.

Middlebury prides itself on prioritizing environmental leadership. Our robust Environmental Studies curriculum is the oldest of its kind in the US, the Middlebury School of the Environment fosters learning beyond the classroom, and numerous environmental clubs and organizations actively engage with the climate movement beyond the boundaries of Twilight Hall and the college Knoll. Middlebury's carbon-neutrality announcement in 2016 showcased our ongoing commitment to climate leadership. But there is room to grow and a responsibility to fulfill. As a recognized model for institutions that value social, environmental and economic sustainability in Vermont and beyond, Middlebury should redouble its contribution to climate action by implementing an internal carbon charge and acting as a leader for other institutions to do the same.

Since the Obama Administration, the country's widened partisan rift has immobilized the White House's progress on issues of climate change and carbon legislation. Arguably, President Obama did not do enough to enact carbon legislation, and in 2010 a Republican-controlled Congress thwarted his cap-and-trade proposal. President Trump's election and his subsequent decision to pull out of the Paris Agreement then became symbols for the government's heightened divisiveness and the demise of federal leadership on issues of climate change. With Congress mired down by partisanship and a presidential administration

hostile to climate action, lawmakers will respond only in the face of united, staunch and coalition-driven lobbying.

Examples abound for the power of coalitions to drive positive change. For instance, according to Diane Toomey's article "Why This Tea Party Leader is Seeing Green on Solar Energy," the Georgia-based Green Tea Coalition has fused the conservative ideal of energy independence with the environmentalists' demand for clean energy into a compelling case for solar power. In 2017, the Climate Leadership Council presented their "Conservative Case for Carbon Dividends," whose proposal to enact a carbon tax reconciled pro-business and environmental values. In Vermont and other states, coalitions such as Energy Independent Vermont (EIV) have worked assiduously to collaborate with and engage different actors in grassroots campaigns. There is momentum, and it is growing. Colleges and universities should also participate and play an expanded role in this uphill struggle to regulate carbon and protect our environment.

The first step toward strengthening Middlebury's commitment to environmental sustainability is a clear one. President Laurie Patton should join 35 other college and university presidents in endorsing the Higher Ed Carbon Pricing Initiative, a national campaign which amplifies the call on lawmakers to support carbon pricing. Carbon pricing has more bipartisan support than any other climate legislation because it can facilitate economic growth as well as cut carbon emissions. For instance, an in-depth independent study conducted by a respected group of economists, Regional Economic Models, Inc. (REMI), found that a carbon price in Vermont rising from \$10/ton to \$100/ton over a decade would result in net job growth, increased gross state product and reduced carbon pollution. As a self-proclaimed leader in environmental sustainability, Middlebury should harness its platform and endorse a

campaign whose proposal is one of the best and most feasible options available for climate change mitigation. Middlebury's use of carbon credits to certify "carbon neutrality," while a valuable contribution, is not enough. Middlebury's endorsement of carbon pricing will give state- and federal-level policy adoption greater legitimacy, align with the college's sustainability mission, and pressure local, state and federal government officials to address an issue of rising salience.

In addition to expressing support for carbon pricing at the national level, Middlebury should buttress its environmental mission with a more concrete step: an internal carbon charge. An internal carbon charge is an effective policy tool for institutions such as Middlebury because it not only accounts for greenhouse gas emissions but provides economic benefits and incentives for abatement. For instance, a charge on departmental budgets commensurate to their aggregate greenhouse gas emissions (multiplied by the social cost of carbon) incentivizes more efficient energy use, technological innovation and behavioral change in order to reduce the cost of the charge. An internal carbon charge behaves the same way that a state- or federal-level carbon price does: it makes clean energy cheaper than dirty energy. Greater efficiency standards and a shift toward sustainable technologies would result in emissions reductions as well as reduced energy costs, which would not happen without the incentives a carbon charge provides. Moreover, the revenue collected from the charge would fund further sustainability projects and education efforts on campus. This critical element would create a feedback loop of behavioral change alongside increased investments in sustainable energy alternatives.

Swarthmore and Yale have been pioneers among institutions of higher ed in implementing versions of this policy on their campuses. For example, Swarthmore College's Carbon Charge has three main elements. According to

"Swarthmore Carbon Charge Program" on their college website, the first component is a 1.25 percent tax on departmental budgets to account for the social cost of Swarthmore's annual carbon emissions, with the generated revenue to be earmarked for further sustainability and energy efficiency projects. The second element is a "shadow price" on the projected greenhouse gas emissions of new construction and renovation projects. This shadow price adjusts cost-benefit analyses for construction projects such that the projected costs reflect the social cost of carbon, thus making it more prudent to invest in sustainable technologies for each new building. The third and final element is the development and strengthening of education initiatives and an emphasis on encouraging behavioral change in the community.

The Carbon Pricing campaign under Middlebury's Environmental Council proposes the designation of a committee comprised of students, faculty, staff and administrators in charge of determining the structure of this policy at Middlebury. The purpose of the committee would be to establish the parameters for the internal carbon charge, with the aim of reducing the college's carbon emissions and using the funds to invest in sustainable projects that ultimately save the college money. A guiding principle and priority for the committee would be to prevent the carbon charge from resulting in increased tuition costs or decreased salaries. Finally, the committee would ensure continual engagement and transparency between students, faculty and staff in order to promote democratic decision-making, evaluate the efficacy of the policy in the post-implementation stage, and heighten adaptability.

Middlebury should reinforce its commitment to environmental sustainability by implementing an internal carbon charge. In the absence of federal leadership in climate policy, states, coalitions and grassroots organizations need to mobilize to fill the gap. Middlebury should too.

Songs and Arias Enchants

By EZRA NUGIEL
Contributing Writer

On Saturday March 17, six Middlebury College students graced the stage of Robison Hall in a vocal concert entitled "Songs and Arias." The concert featured performances by Annie Beliveau '18, Miguel Castillo '18, Tevan Goldberg '18, Paige Guarino '18.5, Michael Koutelos '20 and Miranda Seixas '20. These students take non-credit vocal lessons for 45 minutes each week and were invited to perform by their vocal teachers.

The Middlebury Department of Music produces powerhouse vocalists who perform with a professional level of talent and poise, as demonstrated on Saturday night. The 90-minute concert included a diverse repertoire of 22 different classical pieces, containing both solos and duets and pulling from 16th to 20th century operas. Five different languages were represented, including English, French, Spanish, Italian and German. The lyrics to each piece, alongside an English translation, were printed in the playbill.

Carol Christenson, a Middlebury College Music Department faculty member of 27 years, coor-

dinates this annual event. She approximated that Saturday night's show was her twentieth rendition of "Songs and Arias." She chooses students "who have been singing long enough that they have the technical prowess to handle some of [the] more challenging repertoire." In preparing for a classical performance, she and her students first review pronunciation of the language and technical aspects of the music.

"[They] must do many exercises to be in the physical shape to sing the pieces," Christenson said. "It's like any other elite physical activity...I liken it to ballet, we do a lot of bar exercises in the studio. Then they have to add communication and artistry on top of it."

The process, as intense as it is, allows for the students and Christenson to form great relationships.

"I get very close to the students," Christenson said. "We work one-on-one and some of them I've had all four years. They're all special [and] just really great people. We've had fun being together."

The concert's repertoire also contained small snippets from larger operas.

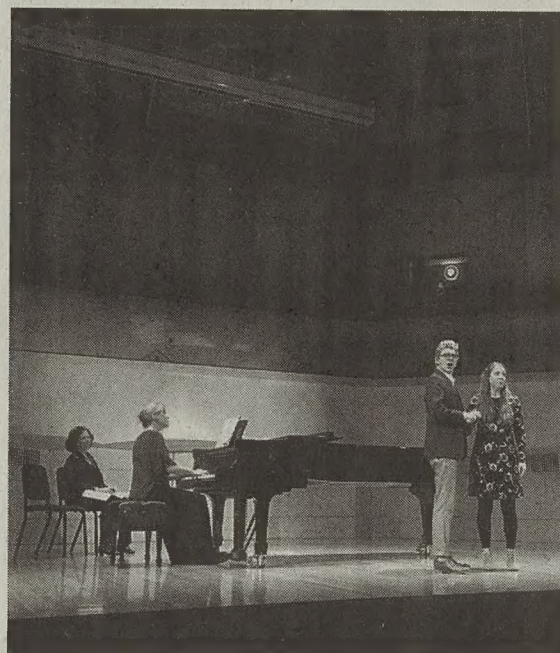
"When we're working on [the

music] we learn the story of the whole opera, so we know where our characters fit in at that certain moment" said Miranda Seixas '20, a soprano vocalist.

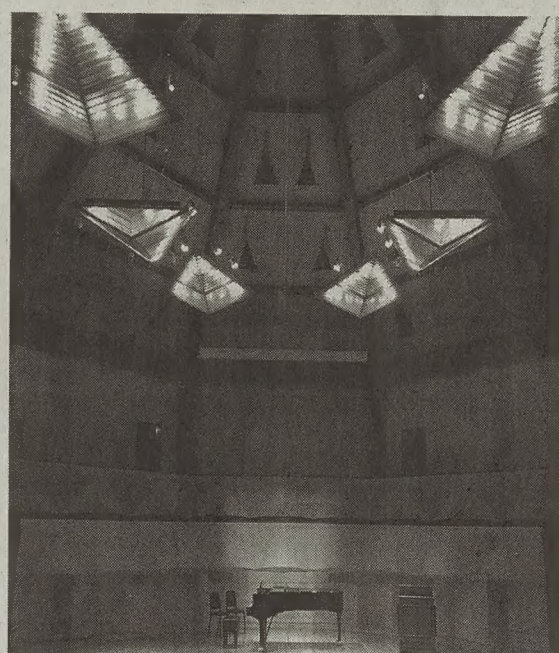
Many of the performers got the chance to workshop one of their songs this past Tuesday, in an opera master class with Stéphanie Pothier. Seixas said the class brought the performers closer together and gave them a chance to put the final touch on their pieces right before the big night.

"I've had a really good time and I think most of that is dependent on Carol," Seixas said. "She puts in so much work and she's really passionate, especially about classical stuff, so she really pushes all her students. I've been challenged and really developed over the past year and a half through the music department here."

"Songs and Arias" showcased an array of melodious pieces. Some songs were upbeat and exciting, others slower and more somber, but all were sung with passion and poise. The Middlebury Department of Music is a robust community that is home to endlessly talented students, so keep your eye out for more spectacular musical events headed to campus this semester.



Middlebury students worked with Carol Christenson to perform over 20 different songs and arias in five different languages.



EZRA NUGIEL

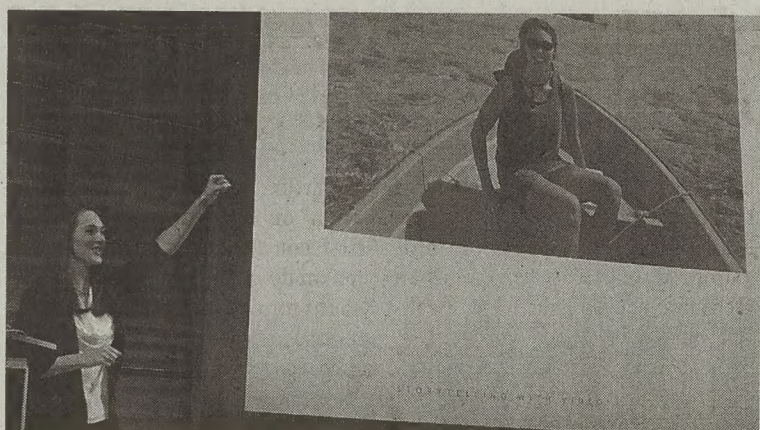
The Power of Empathy in Science

By MONIQUE SANTOSO
Contributing Writer

Carolyn Barnwell '07 came to speak on Thursday, March 15 in the Franklin Environmental Center at Hillcrest. Her presentation, "Visual Storytelling for Science and Conservation Impacts," was part of the Environmental Studies Colloquium and focused on how scientists and conservationists can translate their data into stories to capture the attention of broad audiences.

Having found her love for storytelling in Ethnographic Methods, a course within the Sociology-Anthropology department in Middlebury, Barnwell used her college study-abroad experience to help farmers in Thailand break into the American fair-trade market by journaling and videotaping them and handing out video copies of her encounters to organizations in the US. Following her success in this field, Barnwell graduated in 2007 with a B.A. in Human Ecology from the Environmental Studies department. Upon graduation, she continued to pursue her passion for environmental advocacy through the Thomas J. Watson Fellowship on climate change impacts and responses in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. In 2011, she joined National Geographic as an Associate Producer for the Science and Exploration Media Team and has dedicated her life to helping scientists tell their stories about global and local issues in creative and empathic ways.

Barnwell structured her presentation around the notion that scientists and conservationists often focus their work on statistics and figures that are incomprehensible to the general audience, creating a lack of attention and empathy on environmental topics that affect the greater public. Barnwell believes that in order to create successful communication, scientific stories need to have "empathy, engage-



Carolyn Barnwell '07 presents on her work as a producer at National Geographic.

ment and focus." She adores the quote, "Communicating science is as important as practicing it" because it captures her belief in the connection between science and storytelling.

Convinced that storytelling is an engrained human ability that allows us to pass on narratives from one generation to the next, Barnwell captured the audience by mentioning that telling stories excite the same hormone, oxytocin, in an individual as falling in love.

However, in order to do so, one needs to be effective in reciting the story and mentioning dry facts will not cut it. To test this out, Barnwell tried two exercises with the audience. First, she mentioned facts about the world's melting glaciers, followed by another story of her personal experience in Iceland with vivid descriptions of the magnificent mountains and the sea that enchanted her. As her story had no jargon about the polar ice caps and tapped into the human ability to empathize, she believed it was more impactful.

Empathy, to Barnwell, is the ability to meet the emotions of another. Creating stories that empathize often triggers action from audiences. If explored through the lens of a single person, stories tend to be more effective than when generalizing about group events.

In addition to empathy, Barnwell discussed how important it is to focus on concepts for a broad audience. In fact, she said that National Geographic uses a strategy of ensuring that all their scripts are understandable to 12-year olds.

In a world with shorter attention spans, videos and stories need to be concise and precise, as the idea is to capture the audience's attention and inspire them to search for more knowledge after having watched the video. She presented two videos, the first about the efforts to protect the natural landscape of Gabon and the other on the preservation of the Arctic seas. The former was captured by fellow National Geographic conservationist Mike Fay, whose work created a comprehensive database that they shared with Gabon's president, leading to the creation of 13 national parks in Gabon and U.S. funding to protect the Congo Basin.

"Through visual storytelling, one can provoke action," Barnwell said. "Science based conservation cannot have an impact without storytelling. Empathy and focus need to be used to bridge science to a story." Barnwell believes that one of the most effective ways to do so will be through virtual realities, a system that various conservation groups have been trying to promote for future efforts.

The Librarian Is In

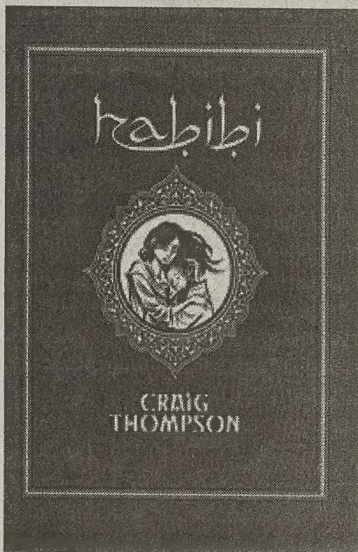
By KATRINA SPENCER
Senior Columnist

Literatures and cultures librarian Katrina Spencer is liaison to the Anderson Freeman Resource Center, the Arabic department, the French department, the Gender Sexuality & Feminist Studies (GSFS Program), the Language Schools, Linguistics and the Spanish & Portuguese departments. These affiliations are reflected in her reading choices.

"While I am a very slow reader, I'm a very critical reader," she says.



habibi by Craig Thompson, 2011



672 pages

Trigger Warnings: Multiple scenes of rape are visited in this work. There is also a good deal of partial female nudity.

THE WHAT

"habibi" is a graphic novel that tells a fantasy tale of love in the fictional land of Wanatolia, a landscape that is both desertous and urban, "timeless" and modern and distinctly Middle Eastern in aesthetic and tradition. Dodola, the female protagonist, is sold as a child into marriage and saves a baby, Zam, a black African, who was headed towards a similar fate of slavery, subjection and oppression. Making a daring escape from potential captors, Dodola raises Zam in isolation from society.

Her engagement with the rest of civilization (spoiler alert!) involves her exchange of sex for provisions. After years, this setup begins to fail and leads our characters down paths of new adventures when the two become separated. These include Dodola's navigation of a palace harem where she becomes the object of a lusty sultan's desire and Zam's adoption into a band of hijras who believe in castration and harass society into giving them alms for their survival.

Yes, there's that much going on in the work! Rape, suggestions of incest and a battle for water rights are all interwoven by sacred scripture from the Qur'an, parables and tapping into a rich tradition of storytelling from Arabia.

Visually the text is intoxicatingly gorgeous even in its monochrome. The visual appeal is the least disputed of the book's characteristics among critics. Despite not knowing the Arabic language, Craig Thompson learned the alphabet (abjad) and its ligatures and employs them alongside Middle Eastern motifs like ornate tile design to effectively conjure the feeling of having traveled elsewhere for his Western audience. Truly, if the tale had no words, merely looking at the text would be a treat for the eyes.

THE WHY

The tone is visually arresting. Its design, deeply maroon and textured, makes one feel they are encountering something special and unique. On the cover, Thompson melds English and Arabic in the strokes he uses for the letters in the title. That alone had

me. Unlike German or Spanish, one of the initial features that attracted me to Arabic was that I couldn't decipher it: I couldn't read it, pronounce it or make any sense of it given my ignorance of the alphabet. So when I saw this work, "habibi," a popular term of endearment meaning "my beloved" or "my darling" (for males) used by Arabic speakers, it drew me in. Having become a working adult, I had to violently tear myself away from my love of language study. So now, when I can fit in a brief and fleeting moment to make love and draw near, I do. This was one of my chances to do so. [Note: Don't ever grow up. #srsly]

I wanted to like this work. It is meritorious for its sheer beauty and naked ambition alone. It is over 600 pages worth of drawing! However, in reading this work, it is as though the author had never heard of Edward Said and "Orientalism" before.

The narrative relies on dangerous tropes that ring of colonialism, exoticification and a global divide. In comparison to the values we espouse today in the 21st century, the work is strikingly anachronistic in its representations of women, Arabs and the Middle East. It's as though Thompson mined every stereotype he could find that casts the white, Western gaze over the Middle Eastern region and said, "Yes, I want that in story! Naked, lounging women here! Shisha pipes there! And many camels in a caravan! Yes, I want it all!"

Moreover, while allusions to the Qur'an, the Bible and "1,001 Arabian Nights" appear throughout the work along with cryptic mysticism, parables and talismans, it's unclear what the author wanted to accomplish with them. They add to a sense of otherness and geographic distance but their objective beyond these is vague and beyond my comprehension.

While I would happily consume this artist's graphic work in another publication, I'd hope that he'd collaborate by letting someone else lead a more modest venture in text-based storytelling and he, himself, assume responsibility for drawing. He must work harder by many measures to more fairly, accurately and humanely depict people who are not white or male. In a text that approaches verisimilitude in its late chapters, it leaves much to be desired elsewhere in the narrative. For a different taste, see the author's 2003 memoir release "Blankets" that received more critical praise.

DON'T MISS THIS

"An Outrage"

"An Outrage" is a powerful new documentary film by Hannah Ayers and Lance Warren that takes a fearless look at lynching in the American South. "An Outrage" shines a bright light on this dark chapter of American history, made tangible through the memories and thoughts of descendants of lynching victims, community activists and scholars.

3/22 Thursday, 4:30-6 p.m., Twilight Auditorium 101. Free.

Middlebury's Ecstasy of St. Teresa of Avila: Artist, Patron, and Context

Middlebury's terracotta relief The Ecstasy of St. Teresa of Avila has been attributed to Tommaso Amantini, a Baroque sculptor trained in Bernini's circle in Rome, on the basis of a similar, signed relief in Vienna. The talk will link both reliefs to high-profile church patrons in Le Marche, Italy

3/23 Friday, 3 p.m., 12:30-1:30 p.m., MCA 125, Free.

"Man of Fire"

Grand Saline, Texas, a town east of Dallas, has a history of racism, a history the community doesn't talk about. This shroud of secrecy ended when an elderly white preacher, Charles Moore, self-immolated to protest their racism in 2014, shining a spotlight on the town's dark past. "Man of Fire" untangles the pieces of this protest and questions the racism in Grand Saline today.

4/4 Wednesday, 7-9 p.m., Dana Auditorium, Suderland Language Center, Free.

Evolution Showcases Naturally Selected Resistance



JOHN SCHURER

The Evolution Dance Crew presented their Spring Showcase in Wilson Hall on March 16. Entitled "Mind over Matter," the performance illustrated resilience to overcome the difficult obstacles that present themselves, especially as they pertain to crew members' personal experiences on campus.

Reel Critic: "Losing Ground"

By JOHN GOSSELIN
Senior Columnist

I would like to take this opportunity to discuss a series the Film Society hosted during February, the last film of which was "Losing Ground." We selected three films (in addition to "Losing Ground," we screened "Sweet Sweetback's Badass Revenge" and "She's Got a Heart") in celebration of Black History Month and each had attributes which made for interesting and valuable viewing experiences.

I run the Film Society with Cicely Bernhard '20, and we had significant assistance in arranging this series from Sierra Jackson '18. She helped us secure funding and put together the panel discussion for "Losing Ground." American Studies Professor J. Finley and librarian Katrina Spencer generously donated their time to watch the film and discuss it with us at the screening. The discussion afterwards provided unique feedback which deepened everyone's appreciation and understanding of the film.

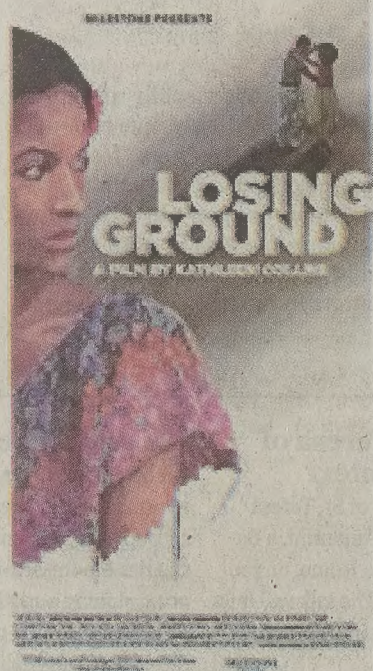
"Losing Ground" is a foundational film because it is one of the first feature films directed by an African American woman and as a result explores themes usually left untouched by more mainstream pictures. It tells the story of a black female professor, played by writer-director Kathleen Collins, and her struggles with her love life. She and her husband rent a cottage in the country for the summer, but she is drawn to the personal and professional validation offered by the city.

Predictably, its production value is relatively low, but the camerawork is competent and engrossing in a campy kind of way. Its confidence is endearing in the best sense because it is so sincere. The audience does not need to be told that its content is relatively autobiographical; this distinction is obvious from the first scene. Collins is giving a lecture on some esoteric philosophy, but her camera is not focused on her speech. Rather, it displays the hordes of men watching her speak intently. At first I thought this approach was too heavy-handed to work, that

it made its point too quickly and without the appropriate degree of nuance, but as similarly blunt scenes appeared, I felt myself appreciating it more and more.

Some scenes are actually humorous with a real sense of comic intention. For example, Collins decides to act in the film project of one of her students and his performance is so over-the-top, so like a caricature in its depiction of a film student, that several of the film students in the audience, myself included, winced from the resemblance as we laughed at it. The sarcastic wit on display in this and other performances sometimes hurts with its accuracy and honest appraisals of that which it lampoons.

This project, so intensely personal, was not released until 2015. Kathleen Collins died of cancer in 1988, just six years after she completed this film. These two facts have delayed its prevalence despite its importance, not to mention its quality as a cathartic medium for its intended audience. Part of the effort in screening this film was meant to rehabilitate its reputation, because more people deserve to see it. The library now has a copy of the DVD available to be checked out. I would urge anyone interested in this film to try to see it, preferably with other people. It is worth a watch.



IMDB

For the Record: "2012-2017" By Against All Logic

By NATE OBBARD
Senior Columnist

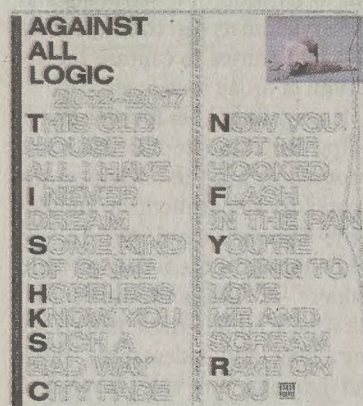
"2012-2017" is the newest album released by Against All Logic, a front for electronic producer and DJ Nicolas Jaar. Why Jaar has chosen this alias this time around is puzzling given the large discography that exists under his own name, but it might have something to do with this record's unique take on his electronic stylings. As the name suggests, "2012-2017" is only an album in the loosest sense and is more a collection of tracks from over the years that never found a home under Jaar's standard moniker. The only real commonality between the tracks is a bit of a house-music sensibility, as it is the kind of music that would be played at a Techno Tuesday DJed by someone who wanted to DJ while retaining their hipster credibility.

The result is amazing; Jaar's house-collage doesn't really have a consistent creative vision or thematic strand, but its scraps-of-ideas patchwork makes the album relentlessly experimental. There's a lot of sampling, mostly from older soul, funk and jazz records, forming some ridiculously catchy tracks (the best example being "Know You," a techno-funk mashup that takes a simple concept and turns it into what might be the best song on the album), as well as boldly sampling "Yeezus" at one point. For every piece of soul-house, there's a longer, more ambient and traditional take on the genre, concluding with the 10-minute, fairly low-key "Rave on U." The familiar house tropes of repetition and deep bass mean that despite its lack of cohesion, the entire listening experience feels right from start to finish. It is electronic

music that is accessible for people who are not big on electronic stuff and is a breath of fresh air for those who are and is already quite possibly the strongest electronic record of the year.

Score - 9/10

Standout Tracks: "I Never Dream" / "Know You" / "Now U Got Me Hooked"



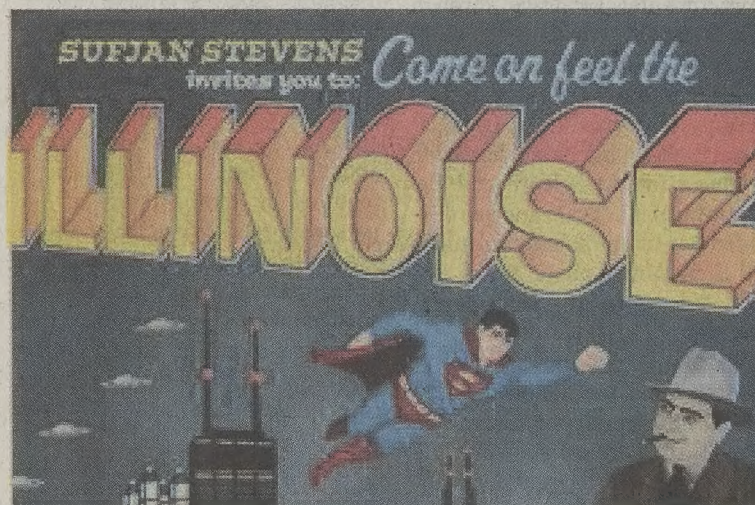
WRMC Spotlight: Come on Feel the Illinoise!

Who: Sufjan Stevens, firstly. Secondly, John Wayne Gacy Jr., Carl Sandburg, Mary Todd Lincoln, Louis Armstrong and more people throughout the history of Illinois. And thirdly, me, trying to piece together playlists inspired by each song Sufjan has made and the history that influenced them.

What: A week-by-week aural exploration of the myths of the State of Illinois as they are written by Sufjan Stevens and the people who inspired him. Each week, I will be focusing on one song from the album "Illinoise" in chronological order and trying to make a playlist that is marginally related to the historical content or musical style of each song. Themes so far have ranged from outer space to colonialism and I hope for the playlists to get even more out there as I progress through the album.

When: Mondays, 3-4 p.m.! My favorite thing about doing a radio show is when people participate by calling in to the station or chatting online at wrmc.middlebury.edu. Some of the best songs that I have played on the show have come from other people and I love it when people listen and help me out.

Where: The DJ booth above Proc. 91.1 FM. Highland, Illinois. Jacksonville. Decatur, Chicago. This is a show that is all about places in



time and the reactions that they create. I am really trying to tap into the power that music has to bring you back to a specific moment and place. These songs are capable of evoking that so well and that is why I love this album.

Why: This was the first album that blew my mind. I remember sitting down doing homework in eighth grade and hearing one of the songs play on Pandora. I think it was "Chicago." Straight after that I went and found the album. I listened to the whole thing straight through and would listen to it for days on end. I thought it was such a beautiful sentiment to try and create a song for a special place that could

hold both historical and individual meaning. Plus, I always wished Sufjan had continued his 50 states project and gotten to Tennessee, where I'm from. So, even though this show is still about this one album, it reminds me of the songs that remind me of those places I would drive by every day and the stuff that happened there. It still amazes me that I can be walking across campus here in Vermont and hear a song that takes me back to a moment in a car with friends looking out the window at a specific landscape. I think that kind of music should be celebrated.

Want to be featured? Contact fmurphy@middlebury.edu

SPORTS & FUNNIES

Women's Lacrosse Rises to No. 2

On a Cold March Day, Middlebury's Goal Total Almost Equaled the Temperature as the Panthers Cruised Past Wesleyan

BRACKET CHALLENGE

Whose bracket survived the wackiest first week of March Madness ever?

B7

WOMEN'S LACROSSE



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The fourth-ranked women's lacrosse team easily dispatched No. 12 Wesleyan, fresh-off of an upset over TCNJ, 13-1 last Saturday at Kohn Field.

Look to the Right

WOMEN'S TENNIS



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The fourth-ranked women's tennis team also easily dispatched their opponents last weekend, beating both St. Lawrence and Colby 9-0 in Nelson.

B8

BASEBALL



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

The Panthers experienced some early season growing pains in their trip to Atlanta last weekend.

B6

MEN'S LACROSSE



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMS

Men's lacrosse, just a few votes short of breaking into the national top-25, had their second-half comeback attempt on the road against No. 9 Wesleyan just short in Middletown, Connecticut, last Saturday.

B3

SOFTBALL PREVIEW

B6

PLAYER AND TEAM OF THE WEEK

B2

GREAT EIGHT

B2



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Kirsten Murphy '21 looks to scoop up a ball for the Panthers in their first contest of the year against a ranked team last Saturday, March 17, at Kohn Field. No. 12 Wesleyan was no match for the Panthers. On a frigid and windy day that hardly went above 20 degrees, the Panthers beat their Nescac rivals 13-1. Emily Barnard '20, No. 3 to the left of Murphy, added two goals for the Panthers. Emma McDonagh '19 led the Panthers' goal-scoring efforts with four on the day, racking up a hat trick by the mid way point of the first half.

Panthers Off to Smooth Start in One of Toughest Stretches of Season

By HEATHER BOEHM

Despite the Vermont cold front, with temperatures hovering in the teens all weekend, the women's lacrosse team extended its winning streak to five games. The Panthers easily toppled Wesleyan with a dominant 13-1 win on Saturday, March 17, to move to 5-0 on the season and 3-0 in the Nescac.

To completely annihilate No. 12 Wesleyan — who entered Saturday's matchup looking like a top Nescac competitor after defeating previously-ranked No. 2 TCNJ on Wednesday, March 14 — like Middlebury did took a complete team effort.

Seven Panthers scored on Saturday, as Middlebury outshot Wesleyan 27-5, with the defense doing their job in limiting Cardinal shot attempts. Evie Keating led the defense on her way to Nescac Player of the Week, which she garnered for forcing six turnovers and collecting four ground balls on Saturday.

You could tell the Panthers felt



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETIC COMMS

Evie Keating '18.

comfortable on their home turf, as they earned a spot on the scoreboard just moments after the first whistle and never lost their lead after that point. Emma McDonagh '19 proved her position as a leading scorer when she slapped back the first of her four goals of the contest in the first 18 seconds of play. McDonagh doubled the score when she fired another one past the Wesleyan goalie on a free-position shot just minutes later.

Then it was Casey O'Neill '19 who gave the Panthers a comfortable lead over the Cardinals after

capitalizing on another free-position shot. With Middlebury up 3-0 after less than eight minutes of play, the women were not done yet.

Although the returning players were notching point after point on the board, it was Kirsten Murphy '21 who made the next three goals happen. First, the first-year glided past the Cardinal defense on her own and hammered the ball past Allegra Grant, the visitors' goalie. She then assumed a playmaking role, assisting both Georgia Carroll '18 and Emily Barnard '20.

Less than 17 minutes into the first half, Middlebury led 7-0.

"We talk a lot about playing as a team — our saying for this year is 'the pack survives' — and I think that has translated into our playing style on every part of the field," said Henley Hall '19. "While lacrosse is often seen as working on individual skills, a lot of it is team cohesion and reflective glory, or feeling like a teammate's accomplishments are your own. I think we have also been doing a good job of approaching every game with the same mentality and confidence."

McDonagh kept the Panthers' first half momentum going on a free position shot to give herself a hat trick and to increase the Middlebury advantage to seven goals.

The Panthers closed out the half with three more goals, silencing the Cardinals' hopes until the final 30 minutes of play. Carroll found her second goal of the contest, followed by Jenna McNicholas '19, who took advantage of a strong assist from Murphy. With under three minutes to go, Barnard successfully breezed past the visitors and knocked in the final goal of the half.

Even though the freezing winds persisted, Middlebury did not let the icy air interfere with their second half of play. McDonagh once again led off the scoring, tallying her 10th goal of the season. After about 40 minutes of unsuccessful Wesleyan attempts to seep past the Panther defense, the Cardinals finally broke through. Abby Manning found the back of the net, despite an impressive attempt at a save by Middlebury goalie Julia Keith '20. About three minutes later, Middlebury had a response when O'Neill raced by the Cardinals to extend Middlebury's double-digit lead. Kate Zecca '20 completed the competition when she clubbed a shot back in, giving the Panthers a 13-1 victory.

Keith once again protected the

net with skill, rejecting four Cardinal balls from her cage.

Middlebury will open its spring break with a matchup against Bowdoin at home on Saturday, March 24, at 12 p.m. The Panthers are seeking revenge after falling by one goal in overtime to their conference rivals around this time last year.

"While we have executed well against all the teams we have played so far, playing Wesleyan

this past Saturday was an opportunity for us to take our game to the next level, and I think fortunately we were really able to do that and show ourselves how much potential we have," said Hall. "We're going into this week of practice with a lot to be proud of and a lot to work on, and we're going to prepare for the Bowdoin game just as we do every other game. We're excited to kick off our spring break trip with a competitive Nescac game."



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

SCHEDULE AND STANDINGS
SPRING SPORTS

MEN'S LACROSSE

Standings			Schedule
School	Conf.	Overall	
Amherst	2-0	5-0	SATURDAY, MARCH 24 Middlebury at Bowdoin, 1 p.m.
Tufts	2-0	4-0	TUESDAY, MARCH 27 Middlebury at Denison, 7:30 p.m.
Wesleyan	3-0	4-1	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Amherst at Middlebury, 2 p.m.
Conn. College	2-1	5-1	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4 Middlebury at Hamilton, 4:30 p.m.
Williams	2-1	2-2	
Bates	1-2	3-3	
Bowdoin	1-2	2-2	
Colby	1-2	1-2	
Middlebury	1-2	2-2	
Hamilton	0-3	1-4	
Trinity	0-2	1-3	

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

Standings			Schedule
School	Conf.	Overall	
Amherst	2-0	5-0	SATURDAY, MARCH 24 Bowdoin at Middlebury, 12 p.m.
Middlebury	3-0	5-0	TUESDAY, MARCH 27 Middlebury at TCNJ, 7 p.m.
Trinity	2-0	4-1	THURSDAY, MARCH 29 Middlebury at Montclair St., 3 p.m.
Tufts	2-0	4-0	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Middlebury at Amherst, 2 p.m.
Bowdoin	2-1	5-1	TUESDAY, APRIL 3 Union at Middlebury, 7 p.m.
Wesleyan	2-1	4-1	
Hamilton	1-2	1-4	
Williams	1-2	1-3	
Bates	0-3	3-3	
Colby	0-3	2-3	
Conn. Coll.	0-3	2-3	

BASEBALL

Spring Break Trip

*All Listed times are Eastern Standard Time

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 Middlebury at Chapman, 12 p.m.	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 Middlebury at Redlands, 6 p.m.
SUNDAY, MARCH 25 Middlebury at Claremont-M-S, 2 p.m. Middlebury at Pomona-Pitzer, 6 p.m.	FRIDAY, MARCH 30 Middlebury v. Williams at LaVerne, 2 p.m.
MONDAY, MARCH 26 Middlebury at Whittier, 6 p.m.	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Middlebury v. Williams at Chapman, 3 p.m. Middlebury v. Williams at Chapman, 5:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 27 Middlebury at Caltech, 6:30 p.m.	

SOFTBALL

Spring Break Trip

*All games are in Clermont, Florida, except for the games on March 30 and 31 and April 4.

FRIDAY, MARCH 23 Middlebury v. Allegheny, 12:30 p.m. Middlebury v. Thomas, 4:30 p.m.	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 Middlebury v. Wisc.-Whitewater, 9 a.m. Middlebury v. Loras, 11:30 a.m.
SATURDAY, MARCH 24 Middlebury v. Farmingdale St, 2 p.m. Middlebury v. Juniata, 2 p.m.	FRIDAY, MARCH 30 Middlebury at Norwich, 3 p.m. Middlebury at Norwich, 5 p.m.
SUNDAY, MARCH 25 Middlebury v. Mount Mary, 9 a.m. Middlebury v. Buffalo State, 11 a.m.	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Middlebury at Johnson St., 1 p.m. Middlebury at Johnson St., 1 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 27 Middlebury v. Wellesley, 9 a.m. Middlebury v. D'Youville, 11:30 a.m.	WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4 Middlebury at Plattsburgh, 3:30 p.m. Middlebury at Plattsburgh, 5:30 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

Spring Break Trip

*All Listed times are Eastern Standard Time

SUNDAY, MARCH 25 Middlebury at Grossmont, 3 p.m.	FRIDAY, MARCH 30 Middlebury at Claremont-M-S, 3 p.m.
MONDAY, MARCH 26 Middlebury at Azusa Pacific, 4:30 p.m.	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Middlebury at Pomona Pitzer, 1:30 p.m.
THURSDAY, MARCH 29 Middlebury v. Westmont at Pomona-Pitzer, 1 p.m.	

MEN'S TENNIS

Spring Break Trip

*All Listed times are Eastern Standard Time

SATURDAY, MARCH 24 Middlebury at Azusa Pacific, 5:30 p.m.	WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 Middlebury at Hope Int'l, 1 p.m.
MONDAY, MARCH 26 Middlebury v. UC Santa Cruz at Claremont, California, 1 p.m. Middlebury v. Merrimack at Claremont, California, 6 p.m.	THURSDAY, MARCH 29 Middlebury at UC San Diego, 2:30 p.m.
TUESDAY, MARCH 27 Middlebury at Pomona-Pitzer, 7 p.m.	SATURDAY, MARCH 31 Middlebury at Claremont-M-S, 1 p.m.

MEN'S NIT
CHAMPIONSHIP PICK'EM

RIGAS:

ST. MARYS

The Gaels went 28-5 and did not make the NCAA tournament, even though they beat Gonzaga on the road and were rated in the top-25 in both the AP and Coaches Poll. Yes, they had a poor strength of schedule, but if the committee's criteria leaves these guys out, then maybe its time the committee reevaluate itself. St. Mary's demolished Southeastern Louisiana in its first NIT game then held off Washington in its second. Jock Landale is a mountain of a man in the middle and is prepared to lead the Gaels to the NIT promise land, demonstrating that they were a force to be reckoned with all season.

CASE:

OK ST

With two wins over KU, roads wins against Press Va and Texas, a win against Oklahoma and TTU, and a neutral site victory of Fla. St., *this* is a team that should be in the tournament. Forced to settle for the NIT, and with two double-OT victories under their belt, they'll be the last ones standing in MSG next Thursday. (ESPN 2, 7:30 p.m.)

GREAT EIGHT

TEAM

Case's Court



1. WILL CASE (174-110, 613)

1 Women's Tennis

They started this season right where they left off, dismantling St. Lawrence and Colby at the Nelson Rec Center courts last Saturday.

2 Men's Tennis

Despite being banged up at the top of the ladder last weekend, they enter their highly anticipated California trip without a loss. Look out Claremont-Mudd-and, of course, Scripps.

3 Women's Lacrosse

Wait, I thought Wesleyan was supposed to be a challenge? ... After knocking off the Cardinals 13-1 last Saturday, the next big test for these guys will be against the College of New Jersey this coming Tuesday, March 27. (In the meantime, don't sleep on Bowdoin...)

4 Men's Lacrosse

Facing one of the nation's toughest schedules, these guys are continuing to play well and build around a strong core led by goal-scorer Henry Riehl '18.

5 Swim & Dive

Members of the swimming and diving teams are competing at NAAs in Indianapolis as we speak. Stay up-to-date on the Middlebury Athletics website and NCAA.com.

6 Track & Field

Track & field heads to California in a day or so to train and get primed for the outdoor season. Here in the corner of the newspaper room in Hepburn basement where the sports section is stationed, we did some math and calculated that would be equivalent to quite a lot of 3000m races for Abigail Nadler '19 and the distance runners ... quite a few.

7 UMBC

That was cool. And who knew the Retrievers were even in the American East Conference or, better yet, that Baltimore doubles as a county? (Apparently, the city is independent of the county — we're not quite sure)

8 Baseball

They'll head west and figure this thing out.

WOMEN'S LACROSSE IWLCA COACHES POLL

RK	SCHOOL	RECORD	PREV.
1	Gettysburg	5-0	1
2	Middlebury	5-0	4
3	Salisbury	6-0	5
4	Trinity (CT)	4-1	3
5	York (PA)	4-1	9
6	TCNJ	4-1	2
7	Mary Washington	7-1	6
8	Franklin & Marshall	5-2	8
9	Ithaca	4-1	7
10	Tufts	4-0	10
11	Amherst	5-0	T-14
12	Wesleyan (CT)	4-1	18
13	Messiah	4-2	12
14	Washington & Lee	3-4	11
15	SUNY Cortland	4-1	16
16	William Smith	3-2	13
17	Bowdoin	5-1	20
18	SUNY Geneseo	4-0	21
19	Colby	1-3	T-14
20	Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	8-1	22
21	Catholic	3-4	19
22	Rowan	3-1	24
23	St. John Fisher	2-1	23
24	Hamilton	1-4	17
25	St. Mary's (MD)	4-3	25

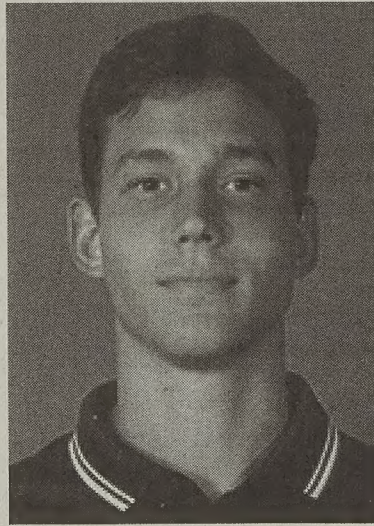
Panther Team of the Week:
Women's Lacrosse



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

The No. 2 women's lacrosse team played only one game this week, but the Panthers showed they will be a force to be reckoned with in the Nescac this season by dominating formerly undefeated No. 12 Wesleyan, 13-1. To make the win even more impressive, the Cardinals were riding high entering Saturday's matchup with Middlebury because they had just upset No. 2 TCNJ on Wednesday, overcoming a three-goal halftime deficit to beat the 2017 NCAA runner-up 7-6. On Saturday, though, the Cardinals did not stand a chance against the Panthers. Middlebury led 7-0 less than 20 minutes into the game and scored the game's first 11 goals, en route to a 13-1 victory. Emma McDonagh '19 netted four goals, while Kirsten Murphy '21 scored one goal and assisted on three more, as the Panthers moved to 5-0 on the season.

Panther Player of the Week:
Kyle Schlanger '18



MIDDLEBURY ATHLETICS

Schlanger won in the first, second and third singles slots last weekend for a men's tennis team that is hampered by injuries at the top of its lineup to start off the 2018 season. Fortunately for head coach Bob Hansen, Schlanger is still in the lineup, as he moved up to defeat Colby's No. 1 on Friday, then handled Brandeis' No. 2 and MIT's No. 3 on Saturday. Schlanger finished the weekend 3-0 in singles. He and Nate Eazor '21 were the only two Panthers to do so. Schlanger also paired up with Lubo Cuba '19 to win all three of their matches in the first doubles slot, completing a perfect 6-0 weekend. Schlanger looked dominant all weekend, losing only six games in six sets in singles and only nine games including his doubles matches with Cuba.

EDITORS' PICKS, DEDICATED TO ROB AND SEB



1. WILL CASE (174-110, 613)



2. ANDREW RIGAS (157-105, 599)



3. ETHAN BRADY (60-42, 588)



4. MIGUEL ESPINOSA (13-10, 583)

Over/Under:

4.5 wins on their nine-game spring trip for baseball (went 2-8 last year).

UNDER

While we really want to see our guys Rob and Seb succeed, the team has gone under every year since we've been around. A sub-.500 trip won't affect them in the long run.

OVER

I'm enticed to pick the over, so I'm going to do it.

UNDER

I have to apologize for this one, but I gotta up my record.

OVER

The only way for our baseball team to go is upward.

Over/Under:

4.5 wins on their 10-game spring trip for softball (went 6-4 last year).

UNDER

Between their loss of quality players from last season and their adjustment to getting back on the field, they may experience some growing pains to open up the year.

OVER

They went 6-4 last year, and I think they'll do just as well this year.

OVER

This won't be hard. Will, cut them some slack.

OVER

I'm hopeful that the sophomores Mandell, Stone, and Bravo will lead the Panthers' hitting.

Men's Lacrosse:

Middlebury (-3.5) at No. 9 Denison on Tuesday, March 27, at 7:30 p.m.

DENISON

Whether they fly or drive, it'll feel like a lot of travel time.

DENISON

Will, show some respect to Middlebury. I know I'm picking Denison, but at least I picked the Panthers in the first two.

DENISON

They should be victorious.

DENISON

Middlebury looks like the underdog here, but they'll put up a fight.

NBA pick'em:

Toronto at Boston, Saturday, March 31, 7:30 p.m., NBA TV.

BOSTON

By the time this game tips off, the Cs will be back into it and getting primed for the playoffs.

TORONTO

I don't know if the Raptors will be able to win in the playoffs, but I know they can win in the regular season, as evidenced by their first-place standing in the Eastern Conference.

TORONTO

Rapt away!

TORONTO

The Celtics are too injured to overcome the Raptors.

Final Four picks:

Of the teams remaining, which four teams do you think will advance to the Final Four?

K-STATE, MICHIGAN, PRESS VIRGINIA, KU

LOYOLA-CHICAGO, VILLANOVA, GONZAGA, KANSAS

VILLANOVA, KANSAS, LOYOLA-CHICAGO, TEXAS A&M

KANSAS, VILLANOVA, TEXAS TECH, DUKE

No. 4 Men's Tennis Has Winning Road Trip

By JACK KAGAN

The men's tennis team is coming off of another successful weekend after a recent shake-up atop the Oracle ITA Division III National Rankings.

Despite their hot start, the Panthers have moved down one spot, to No. 4 in the country, as of the Thursday, March 15 rankings release. Displacing the Panthers is Bowdoin, thundering from No. 4 to No. 2 after a successful spring break trip where the Polar Bears beat a handful of ranked opponents. Among the Polar Bears' victims include now-No. 3 West Coast powerhouse Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

Middlebury will have its own chance to face off against prominent West Coast teams such as Claremont and Pomona-Pitzer starting this coming weekend as it flies out to southern California for its spring break trip. For now, the Panthers are focused on maintaining their standing as one of the top teams in the Northeast.

The Panthers certainly did not hurt their case for a higher ranking after a packed slate of matches last weekend that included two top-25-ranked teams and Nescac foe Colby. Middlebury met up with the Mules at Dartmouth for a neutral-site match last Friday, March 16, and promptly took advantage of the short drive, besting Colby 9-0.

For the second time already this season, the Panthers did not drop a single doubles set and won 3-0. Kyle Schlanger '18 played his first match in the No. 1 position on Friday and stepped up in a big way to beat Colby's former three-star recruit Scott Altmeyer 6-1, 6-0. The rest of the Panthers singles players were also playing their first matches in their respective ladder spots, as well. They nonetheless dominated the Mules.

After No. 2 Timo van der Geest '18 fended off tough opposition from Sumukh Pathi for a 7-5 win in the deciding set, the Panthers

proved far too strong down the ladder. Positions No. 3, No. 4 and No. 5, played by Alex Vanezis '20, Nate Eazor '21 and Andre Xiao '21, respectively, saw emphatic victories for a young Panther contingent. Along with that, Adam Guo '21 won a critical tie-break against Jeremy Mendoza en route to a 7-6, (7-3), 6-4 victory to round out the singles scoring.

After dispatching Colby, the team then traveled to Massachusetts to take on No. 21 MIT and No. 19 Brandeis on Saturday.

First up were the MIT Engineers, who were coming off of a loss to No. 17 Tufts and who last year went 18-5 and finished their season with a run to the NCAA regional final.

Lubo Cuba '19 resumed his spot at the top of the singles ladder and had a strong win over MIT's Tyler Barr to move to 2-0 on the season in dual matches. Schlanger had a decisive win over Sean Ko at the No. 3 spot to preserve his perfect dual-match record as well.

The Panthers ran into trouble down the ladder, as van der Geest lost a 10-2 super tie-break at No. 4 to MIT's Victor Cheng, and Vanezis fell in straight sets to Charles Deng at No. 5. After Noah Farrell '19 had to retire early in the first set of his first dual match of the year, Middlebury found themselves down 2-3 in singles.

However, Eazor came back after losing the first set 6-1 to win in the super tie-break, to notch his fourth dual-match win and preserve his perfect record as well. He also leveled the singles score for the Panthers who, luckily for them, had already swept the doubles thanks in part to a flawless 8-0 win by Farrell and Peter Martin '19, who made his first appearance in a dual match.

Thus, though singles play proved tougher than expected, the Panthers' rock-solid doubles teams, who haven't lost a match in dual play this season, stole the show for the 6-3 win.

The Panthers left Cambridge

and drove to Natick Racquet Club on the same day for a match up against Brandeis, who recently jumped Bates in the national rankings after besting the Bobcats 5-4 at home. The Panthers, however, weren't bothered by the earlier match at MIT or the quick turnaround.

To start, the Panthers swept the doubles with ease, all three pairs preserving their respective perfect doubles records on the season. In the singles, Schlanger turned in a near-perfect performance against Brandeis' Anupreeth Coramutla, a two-star recruit out of Phillips Academy Andover, at the No. 2 spot, winning 6-1, 6-0. Keeping up the scoring were three consecutive straight-sets wins to put the Panthers up 7-0 in the match. Vanezis and van der Geest went to a tie-break third set in their matches, but both came out victorious to seal the 9-0 victory for Middlebury over a strong Brandeis team.

Looking forward, the undefeated Panthers will ship out to sunny southern California when classes end tomorrow as they look to make the most of spring break and pick up non-conference wins against a handful of West Coast teams.

Middlebury has to be looking forward to the second weekend of the visit, as it culminates in a highly anticipated match against No. 3 Claremont-Mudd-Scripps.

The No. 4 Panthers will have had time by that point to adjust to the sunny skies and time change and will take on the CMS Stags on their turf in a match with national ranking implications. Cuba, Eazor, Schlanger, and Xiao are all undefeated in dual matches, not to mention the fact that the Panthers haven't lost a singles match at the No. 1 or No. 6 spots. Add in that Middlebury has yet to drop a doubles match all spring. The Panthers have the depth as well as the strength at the top to win big next week, and with six matches in as many days, they'll be ready for a big match against top-ranked CMS.

QUICK NOTES FROM AROUND THE NESCAAC

The Women's Basketball Coaches Association named Bowdoin senior Kate Kerrigan Division III National Player of the Year...

Bowdoin and Amherst met in the women's basketball national championship at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, Minnesota. Amherst beat the Polar Bears to finish the season 33-0, allowing them to clinch their second-straight national title and undefeated season. The Mammoths have now won 66 games in a row...

Williams' board named Maud S. Mandel the school's 18th president on Sunday, March 11...

Colby's Nescac-champion men's hockey team beat New England 4-2 on Saturday, March 10, in the NCAA Sweet 16. They then beat SUNY Geneseo on the road 2-1 last Saturday, March 17, to advance to the Frozen Four in Lake Placid. The Mules (17-10-2) take on St. Norbert (25-4-1) tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m....

Panthers fans will note that the men's hockey team beat the Mules 3-2 in Waterville on Friday, Jan. 19, so we're sure some folks may be arguing for postseason tournament expansion pending this weekend's result...

Trinity women's lacrosse lost on the road to York 16-15 in 2OT last Thursday. The Bantams moved down to No. 4 in the latest IWLCAC poll...

Amherst women's softball improved to 9-1 on the season with a victory over Plymouth St. last Saturday, March 17, as Lorena Ukan-wa threw a one-hitter in the Mammoths' 2-0 win...

Bates' women's tennis No. 1, senior Maisie Silverman, is one of four finalists for the ITA's Ann Lebedeff leadership award...

Eight Nescac women's lacrosse teams are ranked in the top 25 of the IWLCAC Coaches national poll, as of Monday, March 19. This includes your very own Panthers, who slot in at No. 2, the highest among Nescac teams, behind only defending national champion Gettysburg...

MEN'S LACROSSE FALLS TO 1-2 IN THE NESCAAC

By IMRAN GANDA

In its first away game against a ranked opponent, the men's lacrosse team (2-2) lost 13-10 to the No. 8 Wesleyan Cardinals (4-1) on Saturday, March 17, in Middletown, Connecticut. After trailing 8-4 at halftime, the Panthers cut the deficit to one goal in the fourth quarter, but the Cardinals scored the last two goals of the game to give Middlebury its second loss of the season.

The first quarter seesawed, as the Panthers had an answer for every Wesleyan goal. The hosts got on the scoreboard less than three minutes into the match, which Middlebury's A.J. Kucinski '18 matched 33 seconds later. The Cardinals restored a one-goal lead at the 6:43 mark. Michael McCormack '19 had the answer this time when he scored just 26 seconds later, after assisting on the first goal for Middlebury.

After a Wesleyan goal with 2:37 remaining in the first quarter, it looked like Wesleyan would take a one-goal lead into the break, but Danny Jacobs '18 found the back of the net with just four seconds on the clock to tie the game at three.

The opponents traded goals to start the second quarter, as Henry Riehl '18 scored an unassisted goal to bring the score to 4-4.

But Wesleyan rattled off four unanswered goals in the latter half of the second quarter to take an 8-4 lead into the locker room, doubling its scoring output from the first 22:40 in a span of 7:40.

Middlebury emerged from the locker room rejuvenated and outscored the hosts 5-2 in the third quarter to cut the lead to one goal entering the final quarter. The Panthers scored back-to-back goals within the first 2:09 of the quarter to make their first move of the half. McCormack tallied his second goal of the game, and Wes Quinzani '18 scored his first off a feed from Riehl.

Wesleyan came back with two goals of its own to restore its four-goal lead, but Middlebury ended the quarter with a flourish, producing three goals to make the score 10-9 entering the fourth and final quarter. Riehl scored the first two goals of the run, completing his hat trick, and Chase Goree '20 stamped his name on the scorecard with his first tally to bring Middlebury within one.

Behind by only one goal, the Panthers put themselves in position to complete their comeback and earn their first road win. Wesleyan scored first in the fourth quarter, at the 11:23 mark. Four minutes later, Frank Cosolito '18 drove home a powerful shot from 15 yards out to cut the lead back down to one, 11-10.

After goalie Chase Midgely '19's save with 7:43 left, Middlebury had an opportunity to tie the game. But Jacobs hit the post, and the Wesleyan netminder saved shots from Riehl and Kucinski to keep Wesleyan in front.

Then, Wesleyan scored twice in the final four minutes to seal its 13-10 victory over Middlebury. With the win, the Cardinals stayed undefeated in the Nescac. Along with Amherst and Tufts, they are one of three unbeaten teams left in the conference. Middlebury fell to 1-2 in the Nescac and stand in a four-way tie for sixth place in the conference.

Riehl's three goals brought his team-leading total to 10, while McCormack bolstered his team-leading points total with two goals and two assists.

After playing in only one game last season, McCormack entered his junior campaign having played in only 16 games, scoring one goal and assisting on three in his first two years. This season, he has started in all four of Middlebury's games, scored eight goals, and assisted on five more to lead the Panthers with 13 points.

After a mid-week victory on Tuesday, March 20, over Plattsburgh, the Panthers aim to rebound in the Nescac, as they head to Brunswick, Maine, to face the Bowdoin (2-2) on Saturday, March 24, at 1 p.m. Like Middlebury, the Polar Bears are 1-2 in the conference and lost 8-6 Conn. College earlier this month. Bowdoin's other Nescac loss came in a 16-15 shootout with Amherst, who remains unbeaten in conference play.

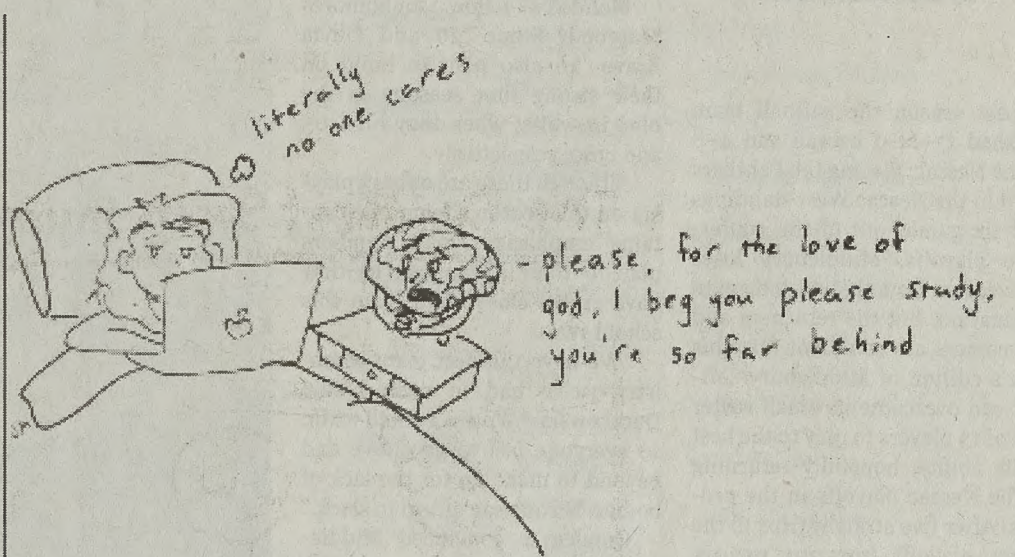
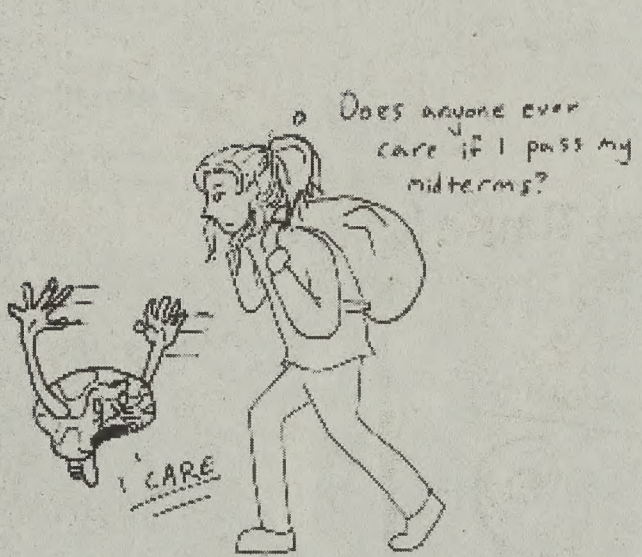
The Deadliest Sports Injury: Carpal Tunnel



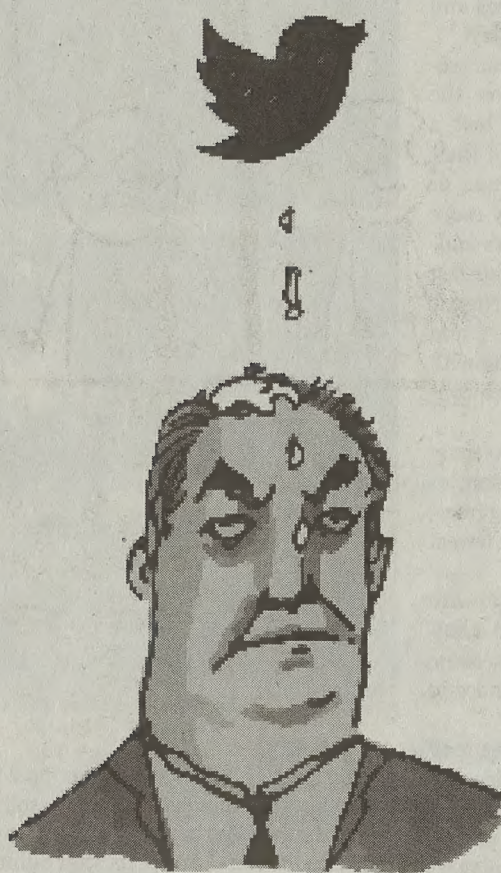
KAITLYND COLLINS



ALEXIS CLAY



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3-MILE
FUN RUN**

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13.1 miles 2-person relay team: \$65

13.1 miles Individual: \$45

3 mile Fun Run: \$40

Visit the race website for online registration and race details middleburymaplerun.com

Vermont's Sweetest Half Marathon, Relay and Fun Run

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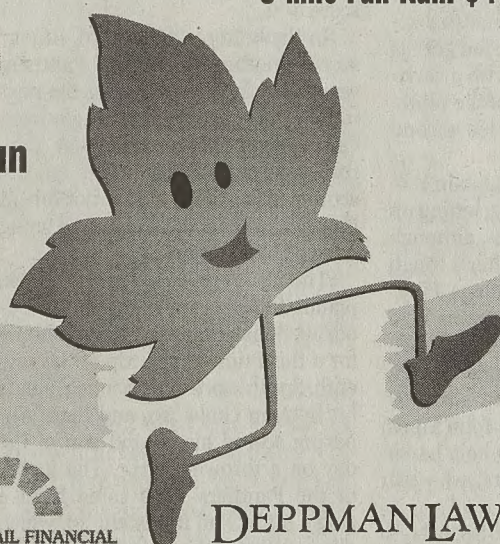
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Softball Aims at First Playoffs Appearance in Three Years

By LAUREN BOYD

Last season the softball team finished 17-14-1 overall and 4-8 in the Nescac, placing the Panthers third in the Nescac West standings and six games out of the conference playoffs. Middlebury loses five seniors from that 2017 team to graduation, but the returners and newcomers are confident that this year's edition of Middlebury softball can overcome its small roster size of 13 players to play to the best of its ability, hopefully returning to the Nescac playoffs in the process. After five straight trips to the Nescac playoffs, from 2011 to 2015 — including its only Nescac championship and NCAA tournament berth in 2011 — the softball team has not made it to the postseason each of the last two years.

Leading the way this season will be senior captains Kati Dackowski '18, Ali Della Volpe '18, Taylor Gardner '18 and Allison Quigley '18.

Last season, Quigley pitched in 18 games, starting 15 of those, and posted a 2.27 earned run average and 63 strikeouts in 98.2 innings. She finished sixth in the Nescac in ERA and seventh in strikeouts.

Dackowski, Della Volpe and Gardner all played in 30 of Middlebury's 32 games last season, primarily in the field — although Gardner chipped in 19.1 innings on the mound.

Dackowski played in the outfield last season. In 85 plate appearances, she posted a .482 on-base percentage, finishing fourth in the Nescac in that category, while also recording a .368 batting average.

Della Volpe played both in the outfield and in the infield at second base last season. She hit .280 and stole a team-high six bases.

Gardner played mostly at second and third base, with a dash of pitching mixed in. Gardner finished tied for third on the team with 10 doubles, the second-most of any returning Panther, providing some pop for a Middlebury team that struggled to score runs in Nescac play.

Melanie Mandell '20 will provide Middlebury's biggest bat, after hitting .439 to go with three home runs, 12 doubles, and three triples last season. Mandell made the All-Nescac first team last season as a first-year. She had the second-best batting average among qualifying hitters in the conference, and the third-best slugging

percentage (.714).

Mandell's fellow sophomores Marybeth Stone '20 and Olivia Bravo '20 also plan to build on their strong first seasons in the blue in white, when they hit .405 and .380, respectively.

Although there are only 13 players on this season's team, the captains emphasize small numbers play to their advantage, as they have grown closer as a team this school year.

"We have the best team chemistry we've had in years," said Dackowski. "We are a small team, so everyone has to go above and beyond to make up for the lack of bodies. No one can afford to slack."

Quigley is convinced Middlebury's small group is extremely versatile, motivated, and driven to get the best out of itself.

"We're lucky to have a group of players who are willing and able to play more than one position. We have a group who isn't afraid to push one another and strive to get the best out of themselves and their teammates," said Quigley.

Middlebury's 4-8 Nescac record in 2017 seems bad on the surface, but the Panthers lost a lot of close games, as four of their eight losses were by two runs or fewer and only two were by more than four runs. The Panthers ended their season by losing their last three games to eventual Nescac champion Williams 1-0, 5-1 and 3-1, showing they could hang with the conference's best in three consecutive games.

The Panthers struggled to score runs in the Nescac last season, as they scored only 42 in 12 games, tied with Wesleyan for the fewest in the West division.

But Della Volpe agrees with Quigley that Middlebury has a balanced roster entering this season, with strengths on the mound and at the plate.

"We have a great pitching staff and have a strong hitting lineup," said Della Volpe. "We have a lot of players who can hit for power, while also having some players who can put pressure on the defense with their speed and skill."

After dedicating themselves to their craft in the offseason, Della Volpe is confident Middlebury will be able to hit the ground running this spring, even as the Panthers figure out how to fill the missing pieces left by last year's graduating class.

"We have some underclassmen who are ready to step up and fill [the graduated seniors'] shoes this year," Della Volpe said, "We have



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Allison Quigley '18 returns for her final season in the blue-and-white as Middlebury's top pitcher last season. She pitched in 18 games last season, finishing with a 2.27 earned run average over 98.2 innings. She, Taylor Gardner '18, Ali Della Volpe '18 and Kati Dackowski '18 will captain the 2018 Middlebury softball team that hopes to return to the Nescac playoffs after failing to qualify each of the last two seasons. These seniors are the only current Panthers ever to play in the postseason.

been working hard as a team to be strong and fit this year, to both prevent injuries and be in the best shape possible. We have also focused a lot on our communication and teamwork on defense, and worked on our mindset when we are at the plate."

Because of numbers, Middlebury team will look to its underclassmen, including first-years Claire Tipler '21, Emily Morris '21, Kaylee Gumm '21, and Emily

Moore '21, to step into the shoes of players lost to graduation.

The whole squad has high hopes, starting with their spring training trip to Florida.

"Our goals are to start the season off strong in Florida, and then come in and win our NESCAC games," Della Volpe said.

"Our goal is to just win and have fun," added Quigley. "The other seniors [and I] want to go out on a high note."

The Panthers will first hit the field on Friday, March 23 in Clermont, Florida, for their season opener against Allegheny. They will play 10 games in Florida over spring break before returning to Vermont to play a doubleheader at Norwich on Friday, March 30. They begin Nescac play on April 6 and 7, when the Panthers travel to Amherst for a three-game series.

Baseball Endures Southern Struggles, Now Looks West

By JENNY LANGERMAN and ALICE HUDSON

Last weekend, Saturday, March 17-Sunday, March 18, the baseball team took a trip down to Atlanta, Georgia, to take on the Emory Eagles and to rematch the Stevens Ducks. The Panthers played two games on Saturday, starting the day with an 11-4 loss to Stevens and later in the day falling to Emory 10-2. Sunday's get-out-of-town game against Emory didn't go much better for the Panthers, as they fell to the Eagles by a score of 10-7.

On the season's opening weekend, the Panthers fell to Stevens 8-4, so they sought some revenge when they played the Ducks last Saturday in Atlanta. However, Stevens opened up a 6-0 lead to start the game, scoring with five runs in the first and adding another in the second. Middlebury failed to come up with any runs until the bottom of the 8th inning, when Justin Han '20 hit a single up the middle to drive home Henry Strmecki '21 and Andrew Corcoran '18. Hayden Smith '20 then hit a single to center, bringing home Sam Graf '19 and propelling the Panthers into the top of the ninth with some momentum despite an eight-run deficit. Han got his second RBI of the game with a sacrifice fly out in the bottom of the ninth, sending Corcoran in for his second run scored.

On the mound, junior captain Colby Morris '19 took a beating, letting up seven runs over six innings, although he managed to rebound after a tough first one and two-thirds innings. First-year Evan Stewart '21, who came in to relieve Morris, did not fare much better, as he gave up three earned runs, but no hits. Jack Miller '21 also saw time on the mound, as did John Tipples '19, in what turned out to be a harsh 11-4 loss for the Panthers, who left eight runners on base.

In the second half of Saturday's doubleheader, the Panthers got a shot

at the Emory Eagles. Emory had an early lead with a run in the top of the first. Middlebury came back to tie the game at 1-1 in the top of the second with a run from Kevin Woodring '21 off a hit by Strmecki.

After two more Emory RBI's in the fifth put the Panthers down 3-1, Middlebury cut into the Eagles' lead in the top of the sixth as the Panthers made it a one-run game when Graf scored on a sac fly courtesy of Jake Dianno '21.

However, the game took a turn in the seventh inning: Emory had a seven-run seventh, the last two runs coming on wild pitches, making the final score 10-2. Despite the loss, bright spots for Middlebury included Robert Erickson '18's five-inning effort on the mound, as he struck out three and threw 70 percent of his 88 pitches for strikes.

On Sunday, Middlebury took on the Eagles once more. In the first inning, Emory achieved a 4-0 lead on Middlebury with four runs on four hits. The following inning didn't go better for the Panthers, as their hosts added two more runs in the second inning. Woodring hit a home run in the top of the third, bringing himself and Carroll home and making the score 6-2.

In the bottom of the third, Emory scored another run, but the Panthers responded in the top half of the next inning thanks to an RBI single from Grant Elgarten '20 that sent Carroll home again. The Eagles quickly scored three more at the bottom of the fifth, making the score 10-3 going into the seventh inning.

The Panthers made a comeback, plating four runs in the seventh. Woodring doubled to bring Carroll home for a third time in the top of the seventh. Smith scored on an infield single hit by Alan Guild '20, and then Woodring scored his second run of the day on a throwing error. The fourth of the Panthers' runs came from a single hit by Phil Bernstein '19, which allowed Strmecki to make a run for home.

Even after a rough weekend, Bernstein explained that the Panthers are not giving up and are ready for what comes next.

"Obviously we want to win every game we compete in, so losing never feels good, but at the same time Coach [Mike] Leonard reminded us to stay positive," Bernstein said. "It's only our sixth game. We are an extremely talented team, and we've seen glimpses of what we're capable of already. Consistency will come with more games, and when that happens, we are going to be a very tough team to play against. [This weekend] will pay

dividends down the line. Heading into our spring break trip with six games under our belts will be huge."

Woodring agreed with his teammate, commenting that "despite losing the games, we have a much more positive outlook on our future, especially after our last game where we were able to make a comeback against a good Emory team."

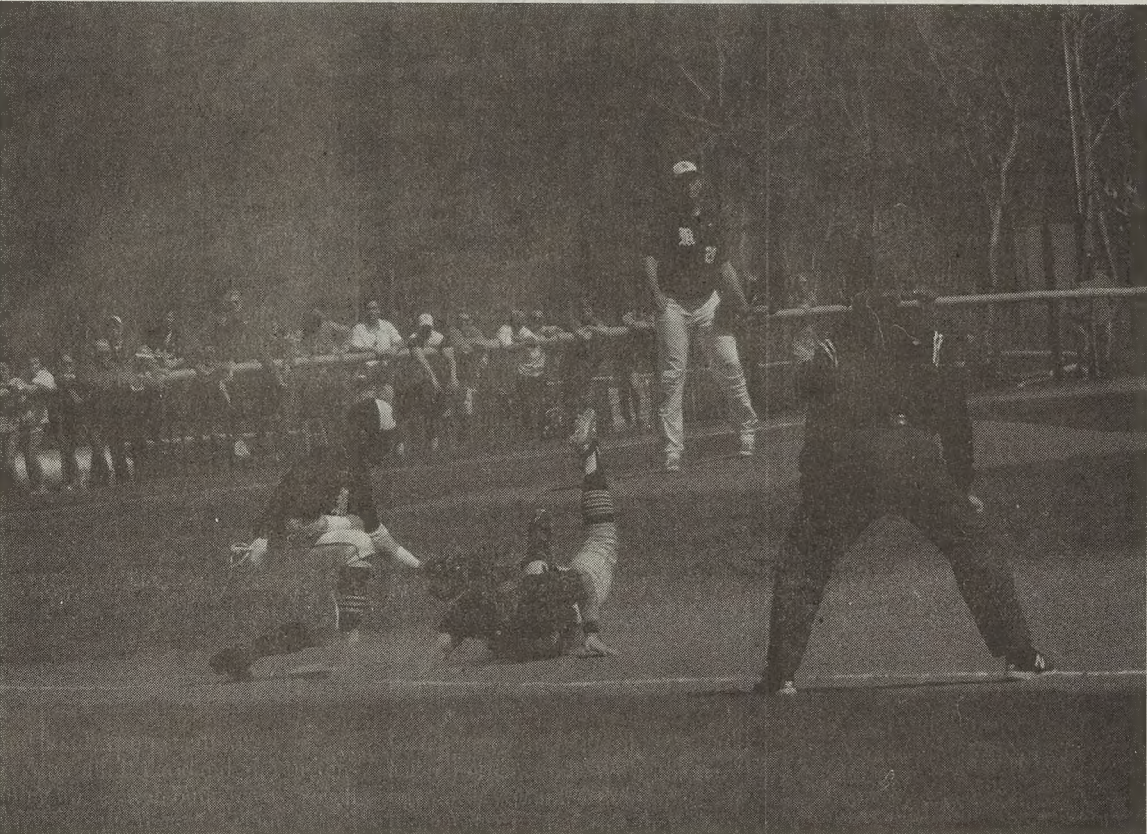
On the whole, there were plenty of positives the Panthers can build on going forward.

"We were able to limit errors, have good at bats and throw strikes," Woodring said. "We're looking forward to

spring break and continuing the positive outlook we had during our game today against Emory."

Middlebury's positivity doesn't stop there. They still have their eye on the prize, looking at the Nescac Championship.

"We're going to use this weekend as a learning experience. We still have a ton of games before conference play starts, so I want our guys to use these games to prepare. We have the ability to make it back to the Nescac Championship, and it all starts next week when we go out to California."



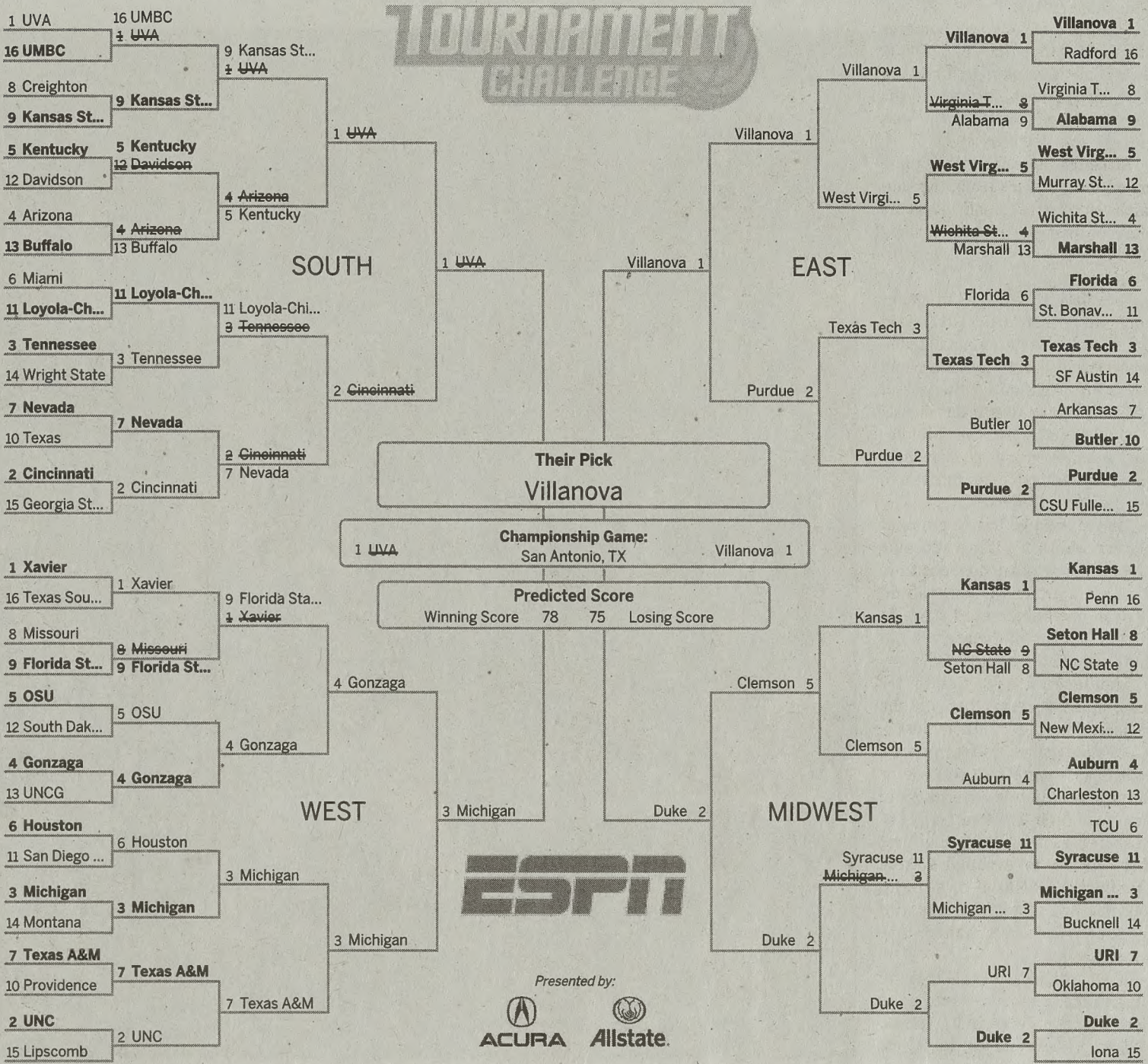
MATTHEW DICKERSON

Rob Erickson '18 tossed five innings against Emory on Saturday, March 17, allowing three runs on eight hits. He struck out three batters and walked no one. So far this season, Erickson has a 2.79 earned run average over 9.2 innings. He has pitched the second-most innings on the team behind Colby Morris '19, who has thrown 12.2 innings and has a 2.13 ERA.

Annie Cowan '18: First Place... for Now

GO PANTS! TOP-5 RANKINGS

- Post-Week 1
1. Annie Cowan: Villanova
450 (PPR: 960)
1. Meredith Tulloch: Kansas
450 (PPR: 800)
3. Kian Waddell: UVA
440 (PPR: 520)
3. Sarah Kaufman
440 (PPR: 520)
5. Erika Nakagawa
430 (PPR: 1080)
5. Ellie Anderson
430 (PPR: 960)
5. Ben Lahey
430 (PPR: 880)
5. Avery Dyer
430 (PPR: 840)
5. Alex Winch
430 (PPR: 800)
5. Ethan Cohen
430 (PPR: 720)
5. Katherine Johnson
430 (PPR: 600)



'Go Pants!' Bracket Challenge: 'Just Win Baby!'

By WILL CASE
A Sports Section Special

If there is anything that the data we have gathered so far from the NCAA men's basketball tournament has taught us, it is the more you know about the ins-and-outs of college basketball, the less likely it is you'll be at the top of the rankings in our Go Pants! bracket challenge.

Benjy Renton '21 was atop the poll when the last game ended in the wee hours of Friday morning. Less than 24 hours before, Renton announced in The Campus newsroom that he couldn't possibly make a bracket because he knew "nothing about basketball." Despite being told that the less he knew the better chance he might actually have, Renton still had his doubts.

"I mean, I knew nothing...well, actually I really know nothing about basketball," Renton said. "I just had the machine fill it out for me and then I chose the final picks."

Renton filled out his bracket at the last minute on Wednesday.

"As a member of The Campus editorial team, I felt obligated to participate," Renton said dutifully. "This is the first time I've done

this sort of thing."

Renton's process of filling out the brackets was unique, as he employed neither the eye test nor any sort of Sabermetric-like system of calculations and tabulations.

"I think I just pressed whatever the autofill was," Renton said. Although he fell out of the lead early in the day on Friday, what was possibly the most shocking day in the history of the tournament, Renton was happy he took part in the bracket challenge.

"I enjoyed this one night of fame."

Avery Dyer '21 has one of the more successful brackets so far, and she seems to be more in touch with what is actually happening on the hardwood.

"I'm very excited with the way things are going so far," Dyer said. "I didn't predict many of the upsets that actually happened."

"Clemson over Auburn is really the only one I picked, if you can even call that an upset." In fact, along with Clemson over Auburn, the only true "upsets" Dyer picked were nines over eights and a 10 over a seven — Oklahoma over Rhode Island — which did not go her way. Her choices have worked out thus far, since Dyer is in tie for fifth place after the first two rounds in our field of 325 brackets.

"I believe in Villanova and

Kansas," Dyer said enthusiastically, "and I am confident that they can go to the Final Four."

Asked if Azubuike's nagging injury concerned her, Dyer said "Yes." And that it is "one thing I'll be looking for, especially because of how much help he gives their defense."

Ellie Anderson '19, a Local editor for the newspaper, is currently tied for fifth as well and has her national champion pick, the Zags of Gonzaga, still in play.

"I don't know if I'm the one to quote because I do not follow basketball," said Anderson. "My cousin goes to Gonzaga, and I was just going with my gut."

Anderson trusted her instincts with her bracket, and they have not failed her thus far. She picked Loyola and Syracuse to win their

RANK	MY ENTRIES	PTS	PPR
RANK	GROUP ENTRIES	PTS	PPR
1	brak hannah_frankel	130	1780 >
1	Benjy Renton ESPNFAN2216545514	130	1780 >
1	Ben Karlin Ben Karlin	130	1780 >
1	Tommy Dillon 85tommy6	130	1480 >
1	1 RollHeckinHawks	130	1480 >
6	Allan Lei 以习近平总书记为核心的党中央	120	1780 >

ESPN
The famous moment when Benjy Renton '21, an Arts & Sciences editor, wrapped up day one of the bracket challenge in first place. "I enjoyed this one night of fame," Renton joked.

first round games and had Nevada advancing to the Sweet 16.

"I just figured some of the teams seeded lower would win, and Syracuse just spoke to me," said Anderson.

On Gonzaga's prospects going forward, Anderson said she's still on board with her pick and not second-guessing herself.

"I'm pretty hopeful. Their game against UNC Greensboro was concerning, but I think they can do it."

One of the newest members of the Middlebury community, Ben Lahey '21.5, also picked the Zags and, adding to the intrigue, is also tied with Anderson for fifth at the top of the post-first weekend rankings.

"It was mostly luck that I did well in the Midd group," said an honest Lahey. "The last college game I watched was last year's national championship game," a thriller that saw UNC triumph over Gonzaga.

"For the most part, I just went with the stats and with what I heard," Lahey added. "That was just hearing from others they were under-seeded. And they were in the championship last year, so I figured experience would help."

"I did five brackets," Lahey said, "and this is the one that happens to be the one that did the best, but that's really what March Madness is."

Andrew Rigas '18 provided some perspective from a student whose bracket did not fare well in the first two rounds. Rigas lost three of his four Final Four teams, North Carolina, Michigan State and Cincinnati, as well as his

champion, North Carolina.

"The saving grace of my bracket was Loyola Chicago, whom I picked to go to the Sweet 16. I think my bracket at large was unlucky," Rigas said.

Rigas was confounded by North Carolina's performance against Texas A&M, a game in which the Tar Heels entered as a clear favorite but laid an egg.

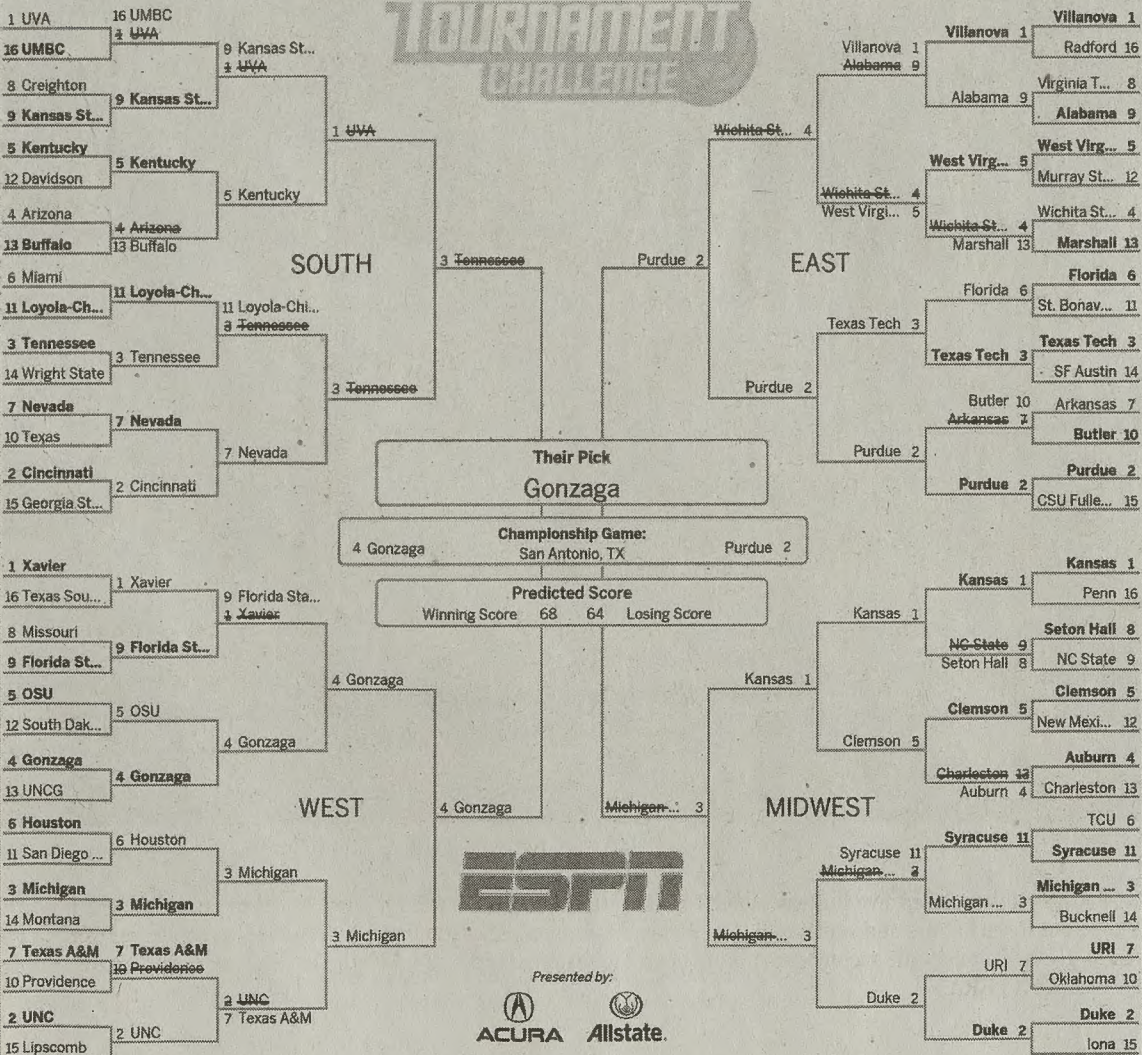
"They couldn't hit the broad side of a barn," Rigas said. "And the committee gave them a tough matchup, against one of the biggest teams in the country. The 'Heels like to play small, so the matchup against A&M was a tough one."

His choice of Cincinnati to advance to the Final Four was surprising, since only 6.2 percent of brackets in the ESPN Tournament Challenge picked the Bearcats, while 32.9 percent picked Virginia.

"Everyone else was picking Virginia out of that bracket," said Rigas, adding "I thought Cincinnati had a decent shot as well so I thought I might as well pick them."

Rigas, a noted fan of St. Bonaventure, is still getting over the Bonnies' 77-62 loss to Florida.

"It was a memorable year for the Bonnies to win their first tournament game in 48 years," Rigas said proud of his team. "I'm optimistic the Bonnies will contend for a tournament bid again next year, even without two of their best players in recent program history."



Women's Tennis Rolls Over Colby, St. Lawrence in Home Openers



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Katie Hughes '20 and Skylar Schossberger '20 prepare to return a serve in their match against Colby's Gabriela and Lydia Vendetti. Hughes and Schossberger won the match easily, 8-1, and also won against St. Lawrence's Emily Wyman and Lia Peterson 8-3 on Saturday, March 17.

Panthers Win Every Set on Saturday

By ANDREW RIGAS

Despite the Vermont cold front, with temperatures hovering in the teens all weekend, the women's lacrosse team extended its winning streak to five games. The Panthers easily toppled Wesleyan with a dominant 13-1 win on Saturday, March 17, to move to 5-0 on the season and 3-0 in the Nescac.

To completely annihilate No. 12 Wesleyan — who entered Saturday's matchup looking like a top Nescac competitor after defeating previously-ranked No. 2 TCNJ on Wednesday, March 14 — like Middlebury did took a complete team effort.

Seven Panthers scored on Saturday, as Middlebury outshot Wesleyan 27-5, with the defense doing their job in limiting Cardinal shot attempts. Evie Keating led the defense on her way to Nescac Player of the Week, which she garnered for forcing six turnovers and collecting four

ground balls on Saturday.

You could tell the Panthers felt comfortable on their home turf, as they earned a spot on the scoreboard just moments after the first whistle and never lost their lead after that point. Emma McDonagh '19 proved her position as a leading scorer when she slapped back the first of her four goals of the contest in the first 18 seconds of play. McDonagh doubled the score when she fired another one past the Wesleyan goalie on a free-position shot just minutes later.

Then it was Casey O'Neill '19 who gave the Panthers a comfortable lead over the Cardinals after capitalizing on another free-position shot. With Middlebury up 3-0 after less than eight minutes of play, the women were not done yet.

Although the returning players were notching point after point on the board, it was Kirsten Murphy '21 who made the next three goals happen. First, the first-year glided past the Cardinal defense on her own

and hammered the ball past Allegra Grant, the visitors' goalie. She then assumed a playmaking role, assisting both Georgia Carroll '18 and Emily Barnard '20.

Less than 17 minutes into the first half, Middlebury led 7-0.

"We talk a lot about playing as a team — our saying for this year is 'the pack survives' — and I think that has translated into our playing style on every part of the field," said Henley Hall '19. "While lacrosse is often seen as working on individual skills, a lot of it is team cohesion and reflective glory, or feeling like a teammate's accomplishments are your own. I think we have also been doing a good job of approaching every game with the same mentality and confidence."

McDonagh kept the Panthers' first half momentum going on a free position shot to give herself a hat trick and to increase the Middlebury advantage to seven goals.

The Panthers closed out the half with three more goals, silencing the

Cardinals' hopes until the final 30 minutes of play. Carroll found her second goal of the contest, followed by Jenna McNicholas '19, who took advantage of a strong assist from Murphy. With under three minutes to go, Barnard successfully breezed past the visitors and knocked in the final goal of the half.

Even though the freezing winds persisted, Middlebury did not let the icy air interfere with their second half of play. McDonagh once again led off the scoring, tallying her 10th goal of the season. After about 40 minutes of unsuccessful Wesleyan attempts to seep past the Panther defense, the Cardinals finally broke through. Abby Manning found the back of the net, despite an impressive attempt at a save by Middlebury goalie Julia Keith '20. About three minutes later, Middlebury had a response when O'Neill raced by the Cardinals to extend Middlebury's double-digit lead. Kate Zecca '20 completed the competition when she clubbed a shot back

in, giving the Panthers a 13-1 victory.

Keith once again protected the net with skill, rejecting four Cardinal balls from her cage.

Middlebury will open its spring break with a matchup against Bowdoin at home on Saturday, March 24, at 12:00 pm. The Panthers are seeking revenge after falling by one goal in overtime to their conference rivals around this time last year.

"While we have executed well against all the teams we have played so far, playing Wesleyan this past Saturday was an opportunity for us to take our game to the next level, and I think fortunately we were really able to do that and show ourselves how much potential we have," said Hall. "We're going into this week of practice with a lot to be proud of and a lot to work on, and we're going to prepare for the Bowdoin game just as we do every other game. We're excited to kick off our spring break trip with a competitive Nescac game."



MICHAEL BORENSTEIN

Skylar Schossberger '20 lines up her backhand on Saturday, when she won all three of her matches, two in doubles with Katie Hughes '20 and one in singles. Head coach Rachel Kahan looks on, as she begins her career as coach of Middlebury. She became Mike Morgan's assistant coach in 2016, then took over as interim coach last summer when Morgan left for Pomona Pitzer. Kahan was named head coach earlier this month, four days before the spring season started.